

Hafa Adai!

DUA program dispenses over \$1M. **PAGE 3**

Residents told not to drink tap water from 12 areas on Saipan. **PAGE 5**

75¢

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Dry season continues in Marianas

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The National Weather Service based on Tinian, Guam reports that the post El Nino dry weather pattern will persist with the Marianas remaining much drier than normal.

According to the NWS, the weather over the Marianas will be relatively dry for the next few weeks

although a few widespread showers have already occurred in June. Wind

See DRY on Page 4

MVA board approves 72-work hour austerity measure

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority board of directors has agreed yesterday to adopt austerity measures that will cut down employee work hours from the regular 80 hours to 72 work hours. The move would

» **36 employees, including managing director Iakopo, affected**

affect all its 36 staff including managing director Priscilla Maratita Iakopo. During a special board meeting,

MVA vice chair Gloria Cavanagh and four other directors present—Viola Alepuyo, Warren Villagomez, Chris Nelson, and Agida Quitugua—unanimously approved the austerity measures that will take effect by June 23.

After three payrolls are made or
See MVA on Page 4

CNMI celebrates 75-year legacy after WWII battles

By MARC VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian committee ended its commemoration of Saipan last Saturday at the American Memorial Park. The final event on Saipan was the Wreath Laying Ceremony at AMP's Court of Honor.

Among those who attended the

wreath-laying ceremony were Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, House Speaker Blas Jonathan T. Atao (R-Saipan), Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Sheila J. Babauta (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Luis John DLG Castro (R-Saipan), and Christina Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Several dignified members of
See CNMI on Page 4



MARC VENUS

Left, members of different military branches pose for a photo with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, CNMI officials, and members of the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan committee after the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park. Above, spectators watch as two B-52 jets fly over Saipan and Tinian during the event.

More photos on Page 13

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Café Winchell's is back after a year of hiatus and has now found a new home at Saipan Vegas Resort on Middle Road.

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ASIA

Hong Kong police and protesters faced off Monday as authorities began trying to clear the streets of a few hundred who remained near the city government headquarters.

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OVERDRIVE

Honda is increasing its stake in coupes and sedans by introducing a refreshed line of Civics and adding a Sport model to the family.

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Local

280 promoted from Hopwood

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

A total of 280 Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School students last Friday afternoon at the Saipan Southern High School campus were promoted to high school, the largest promotion on Saipan for this school year.

Mercedes P. Cabrera and Kina P. Rangamar led the 280-student class of 2019 as their valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

"I am very thankful and grateful," Cabrera said in an interview, adding that she gave it her everything during her stay in Hopwood to achieve the award.

"I tried my best throughout the past three years in Hopwood, so I guess through my hard work and perseverance [I was able to achieve this award]," she said. Cabrera would be attending the Saipan Southern High School as a freshman next school year.

"I don't know [what to expect for high school]. I'm just trying to live in the moment," she continued.

Rangamar, on the other hand, would be attending Marianas High School next school year.



Mercedes P. Cabrera
Valedictorian



Kina P. Rangamar
Salutatorian



ERWIN ENCINARES

Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School students eagerly await the start of their graduating ceremony last Friday at the at the Saipan Southern High School campus.

"It's definitely going to be a lot more different, but I'm excited," she said in an interview about her expectations for high school. "I expect a lot more friends, a bigger campus, and a lot more challeng-

es," she continued.

She noted that she would continue sports through high school. Currently, she plays basketball, volleyball, and track and field.

"My family is very athletic,

so we are really into sports. If I see a sport, I just sign up for it," she said. After high school, Rangamar said she wants to go to either the University of California Los Angeles or the University of Hawaii Manoa, however, she did not specify a specific degree she wanted to pursue.

"This year may be the most difficult year for all of us—particularly for our stu-

dents," said school principal Dr. Rizalina Liwag in her address. "The hardship that [Super] Typhoon Yutu brought upon us is beyond conceivable. Many of our families lost their homes and many students were displaced. Our campus was ruined and irreparable," she continued, adding that Hopwood had to be relocated twice—once to MHS

when they shared campus during double sessions and once more to Koblerville in federal government-issued tents.

"Despite these catastrophic [and unfortunate] events, Hopwood Middle School continued to be focused and as a result, we became stronger. We became resilient to all the challenges we have faced and yet to face," she continued.

Deadline to apply for small biz export assistance is June 30

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, through the CNMI Department of Commerce, announced on Thursday that the deadline to apply for assistance under the CNMI State Trade and Expansion Program (STEP) is June 30, 2019 for Grant Award Year 2018.

The STEP program is funded in part through a grant from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to provide financial assistance to qualified small businesses new to exporting as well as current export-ready small businesses in the CNMI.

The STEP program is designed to help increase the number of small businesses that would like to further their business growth through international exporting both for new-to-export businesses and

market-expansion businesses. The end goal is to increase both business growth and job creation through international trade.

"The STEP program is an essential federal program that provides our small businesses here in the CNMI with the tools they need to succeed within a more globalized economy. I commend the CNMI Department of Commerce for being proactive in helping us expand our product reach to not only our historical markets, but also the rest of the world," said Governor Ralph DLG. Torres

"The CNMI economy is dependent on a delicate balance of imports and exports. As our tourism industry continues to recover, the CNMI STEP program would continue to strengthen our export activities and diversify our

economic drivers," said Secretary of Commerce Mark O. Rabauliman.

The Department of Commerce, in collaboration and partnership with the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA), urges all interested new-to-export as well as export-ready small businesses in the CNMI to take the opportunity to submit an application before the deadline. Application forms may be downloaded via the following link: <http://commerce.gov.mp/cnmi-step>

For more information about the CNMI STEP program, please contact Mr. Frank Cabrera, CNMI STEP Project Coordinator at (670) 664-3077, Mr. David Maratita, CNMI STEP Compliance Coordinator at (670) 488-1006, or e-mail: cnmi.step@commerce.gov.mp. (PR)

LOVE WINS IN THE MARIANAS!

FRIDAY JUNE 21 2pm YouthPrideWalk Start @ Carolinian Utt for activities and sign making. Walk starts at 3PM. <i>Hosted by Friends and Family of LGBTQ youth in partnership with CGC, DYS, GLS, OYA, CHCC</i>	FRIDAY JUNE 21 5pm PRIDE Crosswalk & Proclamation signing @ Fiesta Resort & Spa Crosswalk to the Paseo De Marianas <i>Hosted by the Pacific Century Fellows 2019</i>	FRIDAY JUNE 21 PRIDE PUB CRAWL Garapan after the proclamation <i>Hosted by PRIDE Marianas</i>	THURSDAY JUNE 27 4pm-9pm PRIDE Talks <i>Hosted by the NMI Humanities Council @ Regal Cinemas</i>	FRIDAY JUNE 28 TINIAN EVENT 5:30pm LGBTQ PRIDE Motorcade Start – Taga Beach – Mayors Office – Manamko Center – Amphitheater – End 7pm The Celebration <i>Hosted by the Tinian Mayor's Office</i>
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DUA program dispenses over \$1M

Over \$1 million in Disaster Unemployment Assistance have been paid to approved applicants by the U.S. Department of Labor through the CNMI Department of Labor as of June 8, 2019.



Torres

The DUA program provides payment relief and reemployment assistance to individuals who are unemployed as a direct result of a major disaster. DUA claims are only taken after the President of the United States, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), declares specific areas of the CNMI as disaster areas and authorizes Individual Assistance to individuals working in the disaster areas. DUA funding is provided by FEMA and does not come from employer payroll taxes. Individuals who applied and/or received DUA benefits must provide proof of identity and demonstrate their status as U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or qualified aliens.



Benavente

» Payment relief, reemployment assistance given to people unemployed as direct result of major disaster

Individuals who applied and/or received DUA benefits must provide proof of identity and demonstrate their status as U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or qualified aliens.

During the application period, more than 1,400 applications were submitted to CNMI DOL and the Disaster Unemployment Assistance office for review. Of that number, almost 800 were approved by the U.S. Department of Labor, 3,300 weeks were paid, and approved applicants received an average amount ranging from \$1,200 to \$2,400 each week.

"Disaster Unemployment Assistance was among the many priorities we requested for immediately after Super Typhoon Yutu. Important to our recovery is ensuring that we help those private sector employees who were displaced and those trying to find work or gainful employment. The road to recovery continues, and we're continuing to implement a comprehensive approach that gets us through these challenging times," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

"The DUA Program has provided monetary assistance

to individuals, who had either lost their job, or had their work hours reduced, as a result of Super Typhoon Yutu's destruction of many businesses. A little over a million dollars was granted by the US Department of Labor Employment Training and Administration, and we are grateful to DUA program coordinator Consuelo Hines and acting administrator John Bailey for their untiring assistance," said CNMI Secretary of Labor Vicky Benavente.

Approved applicants have expressed their gratitude and appreciation to Torres, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, CNMI Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, and director of Employment Services Eugene Tebuteb. (PR)

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San Nicolas requests postponement of hearing in dead electrician's \$20K

The new retained counsel for an employer, who was appointed as an administrator of the estate of Filipino electrician who has already died and left \$20,794 in a bank account, requested yesterday the Superior

Court to postpone Thursday's scheduled hearing.

Joey P. San Nicolas, counsel for employer/administrator Juan A. Gacayan, asked the court to continue the status conference presently set for

Thursday at 9am.

As of press time yesterday, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who is handling the probate case, has not granted San Nicolas' request.

The lawyer informed the

court that he has previously scheduled appearance in a mediation hearing for another case, at another location (Middle Road, Garapan), set for 10am on the same date of the status conference.

San Nicolas said given the short notice and the need to further review the file in the estate of Eduardo Ocampo David, a continuance in this matter is essential.

San Nicolas said he also needs to meet and confer with his client, administrator Gacayan; and to be adequately prepared for that hearing.

David, a long-time electrician on Saipan and Tinian, died at age of 60 in the intensive care unit at the Commonwealth Health Center on Oct. 15, 2018 or more than a week apparently after he had a heart attack. His remains were transported to the Philippines last November.

David, who has never been married and has no children, died without leaving a will.

Rosemond Santos was the original counsel for Gacayan. Santos withdrew as counsel last March. She did not indicate her reason.

Last April 16, Gacayan filed pro se, or without a lawyer, a petition that asked the court to distribute the money to him. He told the court that upon David's instruction, the money should be given to him.

But Camacho recently ordered Gacayan to appear at this Thursday's hearing and explain how a non-family individual can inherit money from a decedent without a will.

San Nicolas filed last Thursday his appearance as new counsel for Gacayan.

Saipan Tribune learned that David's sister, Gina David Cuenco, who is based in the Philippines, called last week former United Filipino Organization president Annamae Adaza to express her and other siblings' intent to claim the money.

Aside from Cuenco, David had five other siblings. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

IN MURDER, ATTEMPTED MURDER CASE OPD seeks postponement of jury trial

The Office of the Public Defender is asking the Superior Court to postpone the Aug. 26, 2019 jury trial of a defendant in a murder and attempted murder case due to holiday weekend and ongoing negotiations with the prosecution.

Jean Pierre Nogues, counsel for Alfonso Sebastian Parongan, has informed the Superior Court that the Office of the Attorney General does not object to a continuance of the trial and has advised that a trial date in October 2019 would be best for the prosecution.

Nogues requested Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho to continue the trial to the week

of Sept. 16 or as soon as practicable after that.

The defense and prosecution anticipate that the trial of Parongan will require more than one week to complete.

Nogues said even if jury selection begins on Aug. 26, they anticipate that the case will overlap the holiday weekend of Saturday, Aug. 31, through Monday, Sept. 2 (Labor Day).

Nogues said the first problem is that one or both parties will be conducting examination of expert witnesses via Skype or other remote means.

He said such experts will be on the U.S. mainland, and the time difference will mean that

Saipan court hours on Tuesday, Sept. 3, will still be the holiday on the mainland.

"This may render the experts unavailable," the defense counsel pointed out.

The second problem, Nogues said, is that the nature of the holiday weekend increases the likelihood of scheduling conflicts for jurors, attorneys and court personnel on the days immediately preceding and following it.

He said at least one defense attorney anticipates being off-island that weekend.

Nogues said third is that he would prefer to avoid the problems that might arise from empaneled jurors having three or four consecutive days off for a holiday weekend in the middle of a high-profile media case.

Public outreach on financial situation reset to June 26

To provide greater information to the general public on the CNMI's financial situation, the Torres administration's public outreach presentation will be rescheduled to June 26, 2019 to accommodate additional presenters and federal officials who will be on island to further explain recovery goals and economic solutions following the devastation caused by Super Typhoon Yutu.

The public is invited to listen to presentations from the CNMI Department of Finance, the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of Planning and Development,

and federal agencies on the administration's overall recovery priorities, the decision to curtail spending in order to stabilize government finances, and to discuss a path forward for the community.

Presentations will be held at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reiterated that the outreach presentations will further clarify the CNMI's current economic and financial state.

"It is important that we all truly understand the challenges we face, so that we can face them together on our road to

recovery. I understand wholeheartedly that is a hard time for our people, but we remain hopeful that we will get by, get better, and get stronger. While Super Typhoon Yutu devastated us significantly, we are confident that we will recover faster as we continue to work hand-in-hand with FEMA and our federal partners on a positive solution that will benefit everyone," he said.

"It is important to me that even in the rush of decisions that need to be made to ensure that our people are safe and secure, our community needs the full story, and we are more than happy to dis-

cuss everything that needs to be known about our finances. With our elected leaders and government officials, we have collectively taken action across the board in the central government, the Legislature, the Judiciary, Northern Marianas College and our Public School System to get us back on track. Lt. Gov. [Arnold I.] Palacios and I thank all of you truly for making sacrifices. Your efforts won't go unnoticed, and we promise you that we will get through this together. Now, more than ever, is the time to regroup and rebuild a stronger and more sustainable economy and community for the Marianas." **(PR)**

DRY

From Page 1

flow patterns have also slowly started to change and are helping spread rainfall over the region.

NWS said that among the Mariana Islands, Saipan in particular should remain prepared for drought conditions.

"Drought will persist but a

few showers will develop in the coming weeks. Lower rainfall amounts are likely for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Computer models indicate rainfall of a quarter inch to a half inch in the next week and rainfall amounts near 1 inch during the next two weeks," the report stated.

Computer models, NWS reported, are indicating some relief as wind flow patterns change and patchy showers

start to develop near and over northern locations in Micronesia like the Mariana Islands, however, relief from the drought reportedly will still be a long process.

Fortunately, rainfall in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has improved a little recently according to NWS. However, rainfall may be below normal through June.

"A few passing showers are expected to continue. Rainfall has been very low over the Commonwealth since January and rainfall may be below normal through June at least. For Saipan, the draw-down of fresh water resources will still be a problem during the next few weeks [and] fire danger may still be extreme over parts of the Northern Mariana Islands," the NWS report stated.

CNMI

From Page 1

both the Navy and the Marines were also present.

Among the members of the military were commander of Joint Region Marianas in Guam, Rear Admiral Shoshana Chatfield of the Navy and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Assistant Wing Commander Brigadier General Sean Salene.

This will be Chatfield's final year as commander of the Joint Region Marianas as she

will become the first-ever female president of the Naval War College.

"In my 31 years of military service, there is not one thing I have done that has even half the significance of the 19-year-old who came ashore on the 15th of June on Saipan," Chatfield said.

Chatfield also thanked all the people and officials of the CNMI for giving such a great time while serving in the Marianas.

This is Salene's first time to be in the islands and he looks forward to returning for a visit.

Gov. Ralph DLG Tor-

res opened the ceremony by thanking all of the "fallen heroes who battled for our freedom" and stated that the CNMI will never forget all the sacrifices that were made. Torres also recognized Chatfield's promotion as president of the Naval War College.

An important highlight of the ceremony was the speech delivered by keynote speaker David "Uncle Dave" M. Sablan Sr.

Sablan described how life was growing up during the Japanese occupation of Saipan. He described the battle of Saipan as a turning point of his life.

A pair of B-52 jets also passed through Saipan and Tinian around the time of Chatfield's speech in celebration of the 75th anniversary.

Last Saturday, June 15, marked the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian.

Tinian also received a wreath-laying ceremony yesterday, June 17, at the Tinian Veterans Memorial.

The 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan committee thanked its sponsors for all their help throughout the entire week.

MVA

From Page 1

by July, the board will meet again to decide whether there is a need to readdress whether to maintain the 72 hours cut or go further down at 64 hours.

The board also voted in favor of a motion to open MVA offices on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota five days a week despite the austerity measures.

MVA Saipan office has 26 employees, while Tinian and Rota have five staff each.

MVA managing director Iakopo explained to the board how the austerity measures will affect the staff financially.

Iakopo said to cover the fiscal year, the last pay period ending will be on Sept. 27.

Iakopo said after their reconciliation they were able to determine that they have \$406,951 for payroll.

She said if they were to continue with the 80 hours, they would need to have \$445,179.

She said if they would cut the work hours down to 72, they would need \$411,284 or a shortfall of \$4,333.

The managing director said if they would cut the work hours further down to 64, they need \$377,319.

Iakopo said for 80 hours they are looking at on a bi-weekly payroll at \$55,647; for 72 hours at \$50,805; and for 64 hours at \$45,963.

Iakopo shared with the board that she had spoken with all division managers, who agreed that the impact of the austerity measures to its operations is "slim."

"What it is, is that they will be adjusting their schedules," she said.

She said the division managers will be the ones making the scheduling adjustments as far as staff is concern.

Iakopo said she will be reviewing the schedules and operations to make sure that they are not hampering with their

daily activities.

Iakopo said to keep MVA offices open at regular hours or five days a week, she will be working with the division managers to make sure that they do have employees available.

Cavanagh, who presided over the meeting with the absence of chair Marian Aldan-Pierce, noted that there was a directive from the Office of the Governor that asked everyone to implement austerity measures down to 72 hours starting on June 23.

Cavanagh said the employees have been notified that includes the contract employees, more than 10 days from the effective date, June 23.

However, the vice chairwoman said, they were not able to do board action, that actually approved it during their last meeting.

"That's the main reason why we have this special board meeting," Cavanagh said.

Cavanagh in an interview said their discussion of the austerity measures was easy as they have to adopt it.

"It wasn't difficult especially with the new board member, Viola [Alepuyo], she has a vote and she wants to make sure that she understands everything. It's just she wanted more information," she said.

Cavanagh said MVA is an autonomous agency so they have to vote for the austerity measures.

The vice chairwoman last week disclosed that MVA owes its offshore offices about \$1.7 million, as the Department of Finance has yet to remit \$4 million in hotel occupancy tax to the MVA.

Under the new work hour cuts, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres reduced the operations of offices under the Executive branch, starting the pay period on June 23. Agencies will be closed every payday Friday beginning on July 5 until further notice.

Residents told not to drink tap water from 12 areas on Saipan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Area inside red line received water that exceeded the health advisory level of 70 ppt for PFOS and PFOA as of April 30, 2019.

taminant monitoring of its drinking water supplies in 2015 and 2016. In May 2016, EPA and BECQ requested that CUC conduct follow-up monitoring of its supplies for PFOA and PFOS. CUC conducted additional testing in June 201 and continues to conduct additional monitoring. The results of this monitoring resulted in CUC removing eight wells in the Isley and Obyan well fields near the Saipan International Airport from service.

Updated information

On April 30, 2019, CUC collected a sample from the As Terlaje Tank to monitor the con-

centration levels of PFOS and PFOA in the water supply. The As Terlaje Tank receives water from the suspected source of the initial contamination. Results received by CUC on May 20, 2019 indicated the concentration of PFOS and PFOA was 72.6 parts per trillion (ppt), exceeding the health advisory of 70 parts per trillion (ppt). The As Terlaje Tank provides water to the following areas: Chalan Laulau, Iliying, Chalan Kiya, As Terlaje, Kannat Tabla, Fina Sisu, San Jose, and parts of southern Garapan, Gualo Rai, Susupe, As Lito, and As Perdido.

What CUC is doing about

the problem?

It is not possible to take all wells containing PFOS and PFOA out of service without dramatically affecting delivery of water to customers. The goal is to reduce the combined concentration from all wells to below the health advisory level. To achieve this goal, CUC is taking the following measures:

1. CUC has removed from service eight (8) wells with elevated levels of PFOS and PFOA.

2. CUC will continue to test the concentration of PFOS and PFOA in all the wells presently supplying water to the areas affected by this advisory.

3. CUC will also continue to monitor for these contaminants at the sources surrounding the affected areas.

4. CUC will report to BECQ and the community the results of all further testing.

5. CUC is presently pursuing funding to purchase and install granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration systems, which have proven to remove these specific contaminants.

For more information about PFOA and PFOS visit EPA's webpage <https://www.epa.gov/gr0tmd•water-and-drinking-water/•drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos> or contact the BECQ Safe Drinking Water Program at (670) 664-8500. **(PR)**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has detected levels of perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) that exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Health Advisory level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) in a limited area of its drinking water system. The affected area includes the villages of Chalan Laulau, Iliying, Chalan Kiya, As Terlaje, Kannat Tabla, Fina Sisu, San Jose, and parts of southern Garapan, Gualo Rai, Susupe, As Lito, and As Perdido.

CUC is advising consumers in these areas to avoid ingesting the water at this time and until the concentrations of PFOS and PFOA are below the health advisory level. Consumers should not drink tap water, cook with tap water, or make ice for consumption with tap water. CUC is making this advisory action to help the affected population limit their lifetime exposure to these chemicals.

History

On May 19, 2016, EPA issued new nationwide drinking water health advisories regarding two chemical contaminants: perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). These health advisories are based on the latest science available and help local water systems and regulatory agencies take appropriate steps to address PFOA and PFOS if needed.

PFOS and PFOA are human-made substances and are not naturally found in the environment. They have been used extensively in commercial goods (carpets, clothing, furniture, paper packaging for food) and in materials that

are resistant to water, grease, or stains such as cookware. They are also used in firefighting foams at airfields and in a number of industrial processes. Between 2000 and 2002, PFOS was voluntarily phased out of production in the U.S. by its primary manufacturer.

While consumer products are a large source of human exposure to these chemicals, drinking water can be an additional source of exposure in communities where these chemicals have entered and contaminated water supplies. Such contamination is typically localized and associated with a specific facility, for example, an airfield at which they were used for firefighting.

EPA has established lifetime health advisories of 70 parts per trillion for combined concentrations of PFOA and PFOS in drinking water. EPA health advisories include a margin of protection from adverse health effects when consumed at these levels over a lifetime.

Studies indicate that exposure to PFOA and PFOS over certain levels may result in adverse health effects, including developmental effects to fetuses during pregnancy or to breastfed infants (e.g., low birth weight, accelerated puberty, skeletal variations), cancer (e.g., testicular, kidney), liver effects (e.g., tissue damage), immune effects (e.g., antibody production and immunity), thyroid effects, and other effects (e.g., cholesterol changes).

What CUC has done?

In compliance with EPA and CNMI Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) requirements, CUC conducted unregulated con-

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9th Circuit affirms verdict favoring bank in suit to collect \$200K TCD

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the federal jurors' verdict that is favorable to the MUFG Union Bank in Derron Gerard Flores' lawsuit to collect a \$200,000 time certificate of deposit that his late father, former Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, had purchased in 1993.

The Ninth Circuit found that substantial evidence—specifically the testimony of Victoria Concepcion that the MUFG Union Bank repaired the deposit—supports the jury's verdict.

Concepcion was then an employee of Union Bank on Saipan. Union Bank on the island was closed several years ago and is now known as MUFG Union Bank.

The Ninth Circuit found no plain error in the verdict form and also determined that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona properly rejected Derron Flores' claim for "rollover" interest.

According to the Ninth Circuit ruling issued by Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas and judges Consuelo M. Callahan and Morgan

Christen last Thursday, the jury's finding of no breach precludes any award of prejudgment interest.

The Ninth Circuit judges ruled that because Donald Flores based both his statutory claim and his breach of contract claim on the same conduct—MUFG Union Bank's failure to return the deposit—the jury's finding of no breach by the bank means that any error in the district court's rejection of the statutory claim was harmless.

According to court documents, in March 2008, Donald's wife, Cecilia, found the TCD original certificate.

Donald Flores filed the lawsuit in 2011. When he died in June 2014, Cecilia was appointed administratrix of his estate. Cecilia, however, died in September 2015. Their son, Derron Flores, continued the lawsuit as administrator of Donald Flores' estate.

The lawsuit seeks to collect from MUFG Union Bank the principal and interest on the \$200,000 32-day TCD 24 years after Donald Flores took it out at Union Bank on Saipan in 1993.

Donald Flores claimed damages is for the \$200,000 TCD principal, plus \$438 for

the 2.5-percent interest on the principal for the 32-day time period, for a total of \$200,438.

Manglona, who presided over the trial, ruled that Derron Flores may seek prejudgment interest on any damages that may be awarded in the trial.

On Nov. 13, 2017, the federal jurors found that Donald Flores and Union Bank did enter into a contract.

The jurors, however, determined that Donald Flores failed to prove by a preponderance of evidence that Union Bank breached the contract by failing to do something that the contract required it to do, without a valid excuse.

Juan T. Lizama is counsel for Derron Flores.

Attorneys Sean Frink and Catherine Cachero are counsels for Union Bank.

Derron Flores then appealed, asking the Ninth Circuit to reverse the jury's verdict.

In the appeal, Derron Flores argued that the evidence at trial was insufficient to support the jury's finding that the bank did not breach the parties' contract.

In affirming the verdict, the Ninth Circuit said Derron Flores forfeited this argument by failing to challenge the suf-

ficiency of the evidence in appropriate pre-verdict and post-verdict motions.

Derron Flores asserted error in the verdict form.

But the Ninth Circuit ruled that because Derron Flores did not raise his challenge to the verdict form in the district court, they review the verdict form for plain error.

Derron Flores argued that the verdict form shifted in him, the burden of proving the bank's lack of an excuse for failing to perform its duties under the contract.

The Ninth Circuit, however, pointed out that the jury instructions made clear that the bank bore the burden of proving its defense that it had returned the deposit.

Derron Flores also argued that the district court erred in ruling that he is not entitled to "rollover" interest.

But the Ninth Circuit judges disagreed. The judges said the CD unambiguously provided a date for "maturity" (Oct. 12, 1993) and stated that it "earns no interest after maturity."

The Ninth Circuit judges said Manglona correctly interpreted the CD under its plain terms consistent with CNMI law.

Derron Flores also argued that the district court erred in concluding that the issue of prejudgment interest was for the court, not the jury, to decide.

The Ninth Circuit judges, however, said Derron Flores would have been entitled to prejudgment interest only if he prevailed at trial.

Derron Flores finally challenged the district court's ruling that Donald Flores' claim under the CNMI Consumer Protection Act abated upon his death.

The Ninth Circuit judges said the CNMI Supreme Court's decision in a precedent case supports Manglona's conclusion that the statutory claim abated upon Donald Flores' death.

According to court papers, Donald Flores purchased from Union Bank's Oleai Branch a 32-day maturing \$200,000 TCD on Sept. 10, 1993. The \$200,000 that Donald used to purchase the TCD was originally derived from a check written payable solely to him in the amount of \$288,000.

Donald received this \$288,000 check as partial payment from a land transaction in which he leased agricultural homestead land in Laulau to

some Korean investors.

Lourdes Deleon Guerrero, an employee of Union Bank at that time, assisted Donald Flores in purchasing the TCD on Sept. 10, 1993. Deleon Guerrero signed the TCD on behalf of the bank.

Donald Flores and his wife, Cecilia, left Saipan for Huntington Beach, California within a few days after Sept. 10, 1993, because Donald required medical consultation and treatment due to serious kidney problems.

From September 1993 to mid-1995, Cecilia remained in California for medical consultation and treatment. During this time, Donald Flores spent the majority of his time in California but returned to Saipan occasionally.

In 2001, Union Bank sold its CNMI and Guam assets and liabilities to First Hawaiian Bank and stopped doing business in the CNMI.

On June 10 and Sept. 1, 2008, Donald Flores, through a prior attorney, wrote a letter to Union Bank in California, stating that he had the original TCD in his possession and requesting that the bank redeem it.

On Sept. 22, 2008, Union Bank, through its office in California, responded that it had no record of the TCD and thus could not redeem it.

DPS responds to 66 active calls over weekend


This past weekend, the CNMI Department of Public Safety responded to 66 active calls on Saipan and made eight arrests.

From 11pm on Friday, June 14, 2019 through 11pm on Sunday, June 16, 2019, DPS officers responded to 911 calls and were dispatched to 66 different cases, which

include an auto-related incident, a burglary, a civil matter, criminal mischief, a disturbing the peace incident, a domestic violence incident, a driving under the influence case, an illegal possession case, an incident related to property damage, and theft. CNMI DPS officers arrested

eight individuals for crimes including driving under the influence, domestic violence, disturbing the peace, illegal possession, and criminal mischief.

DPS highly encourages the public to call 911 anytime to report a crime or an emergency. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT AND HEARING

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the designated Public Housing Authority (PHA) authorized to administer the Housing Choice Voucher Program in the CNMI. Federal guidelines provide that the CNMI prepare a PHA Five Year Plan for the upcoming five years. NMHC has completed the draft PHA Five Year Plan and would like to inform the general public that:

- NMHC will conduct a public hearing to solicit comments from the public for the Five Year PHA Plan on July 27, 2019, 3:00 p.m. at NMHC's Conference Room located at the main office in Garapan, Saipan; and
- NMHC will open the public comment period from June 17, 2019 through July 31, 2019; written comments must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on July 31, 2019 to:
 - Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Attn: PHA Five Year Plan
P.O. Box 500514
Saipan, MP 96950

Any interested persons wishing to express their views on the draft Five year PHA Plan may do so by either attending the public hearing or by submitting written comments to NMHC. Copies of the draft Five year PHA Plan are available for viewing on our website at www.nmhc.gov.net and during normal business hours at the NMHC Main Office in Saipan, as well as the field offices on Tinian and Rota.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangement, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Kathryn Odysa Aquino Ramos
PO Box 503023, Saipan MP 96950
(670) 287-6458

pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In Re The Matter Of)
The Petition To)
Appoint General) FCD GU CIVIL
Guardianship For:) ACTION
Keirstian Vincent) NO. 19-0256
Sandico and)
Joaquin Aquino) **NOTICE OF**
Minor Children) **HEARING**
By:)
Kathryn Odysa)
Aquino Ramos)
Petitioner)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on August 5, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom MBP, before Honorable Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 29th day of May, 2019.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court



UNITED STATES
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities hereby gives notice that it will hold its 3rd Quarter General Membership Meeting on June 28, 2019, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the LaoLao Bay & Golf Resort, Caladium Hall.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review & Adoption of Agenda of June 28, 2019
- IV. Review & Adoption of Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2019
- V. Reports
 - a. Chairperson
 - b. State Plan Committee Chairperson
 - c. Fiscal Committee Chairperson
 - d. Executive Director
- VI. Old Business
 - a. DDEAM Update
- VII. New Business
 - a. Emergency Preparedness Focus Group Meeting
 - b. CIRCLES/PRE-ETS Transition Symposium
- VIII. Action Items
- IX. Miscellaneous
- X. Next Meeting
- XI. Adjournment

Note: Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 13(a) 7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 5 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Efren Nicholas
Chairperson

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A (Administrative)

6 awarded Saipan Chamber of Commerce scholarships



From left front row, David Bona Phan Jr. (NMC), Elaine Enriquez (NMC), Kelvin Wolf (MHS), Cole Chambers (MHS), Reica Ramirez (MCS), and Pionnah Gregorio (MHS). CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce awarded six scholarships at the Chamber General Membership Meeting last June 5. The meeting was held at Hibiscus Hall, Fiesta Resort & Spa. The students, their parents, business leaders, and Chamber members gathered to recognize these students for their academic excellence and achievements.

This year the Chamber received 50 competitive applications: 23 from the high school level and 27 from the college level. Scholarships were awarded to four graduating high school students: Cole Chambers (Marianas High School), Kelvin Wolf (Marianas High School), Reica Ramirez (Mount Carmel High School), and Pionnah Gregorio (Marianas High School) and two college students: Elaine Enriquez (Northern Marianas College) and David Bona Phan Jr. (Northern Marianas College). The six recipients bested the competitive pool of applicants earning them \$2,000 each towards tuition at respective post-secondary institutions.

For this annual presentation, the Chamber invited past recipients to share a few words of advice to this year's recipients. The slate of impressive Chamber scholars were Kevin Bautista (press secretary for

the Office of the Governor), Alexis Hofschneider (legislative assistant), and new Chamber member Michael Sheu (Hong Ye Trading Co.). President Velma Palacios expressed her gratitude to the Chamber members for their continuous support and contributions throughout the year that make the Chamber Scholarship Program possible.

Special thanks to Chamber Education Committee chair Nicole Babauta (CNMI SBDC), Chamber Education Committee members, and scholarship judges: Velma Palacios (IT&E), Vickie Izuka (First Hawaiian Bank), Mark Bugbee (principal, Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School), Tyrell Pauling (Hyatt Regency Saipan), and Maxine Laszlo (Chamber executive director).

Saipan Chamber of Commerce is the largest non-profit private business organization in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. The Chamber works to promote and protect the business, economic, and civic interest, and general health and welfare, of our islands. The office is located at the Marianas Business Plaza, 3rd Floor #315. For more information, please call (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipan-chamber.com. (PR)



From left, Elaine Enriquez (Northern Marianas College), David Bona Phan Jr. (Northern Marianas College), and Frankie Eliptico (interim president, Northern Marianas College) CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



WRITERS WORKSHOP

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Writers Workshop attendees pose after ninth workshop in the series held at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library last Saturday, June 15, 2019. Twenty percent of the proceeds would be donated to the library. From left, Gary Liddle, Paul Plunkett, Sean Plunkett, Ajike Omajala, Walt Goodridge, Riza Ramos, and Jane Mack.

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Guam Catholic group protests recruitment of abortion doctors

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—A Catholic group has protested the governor of Guam's plan to recruit abortion providers to the U.S. territory where no doctors are currently willing to

terminate pregnancies.

Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero's recruitment idea has drawn criticism and support from residents, the Pacific Daily News reported Friday.

The Democratic governor told The Associated Press she is concerned women could be forced to seek unsafe and illegal procedures after the last abortion provider retired last year.

One resident told the Pacific Daily News that recruiting an abortion doctor will make Guam a better place.

"If the governor makes it happen, it'll truly show that she meant it when she said she'll make Guam a better place," said 20-year-old Kim-

mi Yee, who was born and raised on Guam. "I'd be glad to know that women have the ability to choose and will be able to do it safely."

A Catholic anti-abortion group protested the recruitment idea at the governor's office on Friday.

Patricia Perry, co-chair of the group, sent invitations encouraging people to attend a prayer rally.

"If the governor is not convinced, we'll do other measures to further our cause," Perry said. "We will not stop until all abortion is outlawed and all anti-life laws will be abolished."

Part of the invitation reads, "Say no to recruiting doc-

tors who will kill our unborn children! Say yes to recruiting doctors who help us save lives!"

Jayne Flores, the director of the Bureau of Women's Affairs, said she is meeting with Public Health officials to talk about a plan to recruit a doctor to provide abortion services. The administration is also working to provide greater access to birth control to reduce unwanted pregnancies.

The archdiocese on the heavily Catholic island said in a statement it was appealing to the governor to change her position.

"The fact is that human life begins at conception and the Roman Catholic Church af-

firms and promotes this truth. There is no other moral or logical place to draw the line," the Archdiocese of Agaña said.

Arsha Abellera, who has lived on Guam for the past decade, said the administration's plan to recruit a doctor to provide abortion is long overdue.

"It is the government's job to protect women and their right to choose," she said. "A woman's body is her house and whatever she does with it shouldn't be anyone's business."

Government records show about 250 abortions a year were performed on Guam from 2007 to 2017, the Pacific Daily News said. No abortions have been reported in the past 12 months.

Tinian commemorates US invasion of island



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Junior/Senior High School cadets and three members of the U.S. Marine Corp paid a special tribute to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Battles of Saipan & Tinian last June 13.

Seventy-five years after the U.S. Marine Corp invaded the beaches of Tinian during World War II, the Tinian Junior/Senior High School cadets paid a special tribute together with three members of the U.S. Marine Corp.

The tribute last June 13 was one of the events for the 75th Anniversary of the Battles of Saipan & Tinian and took place at Invasion Beach, Tinian. With the members of the USMC following behind the TJSHS cadets, the Marine Corp flag flying in the wind, and the feel of goosebumps as TAPS played we honored those who have sacrificed their lives during World War II.

The members of the Tinian community and Mayor Edwin P. Aldan were present

and stood silently in solemn respect to the tribute.

Tania Marie Mendiola with CNMI Veterans Affairs Office and as the Tinian event coordinator for the 75th Anniversary of the Battles of Saipan & Tinian and the rest of the committee extend their gratitude to the TJSHS JROTC, USMC, and Aldan and staff for their hard work and dedication to the upcoming events being held on Tinian. The community has also placed 2,000 flags from the Tinian Airport all along Broadway, Natibu Park and up to the Veterans Memorial Park.

Tinian also had a Walk of Honor and released 75 lanterns last June 14 from Natibu Park to the Veterans Memorial Park. (PR)

JOETEN MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC

Transpacific Group of Companies donates \$5K

Transpacific Group, consisting of Coca-Cola Micronesia, Foremost Foods & Glimpses Advertising, has donated \$5,000 in-kind for the upcoming 2019 Joeten Memorial Golf Classic scheduled for June 22 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's scenic east course.

"We would like to thank

Transpacific Group for their generous support, since the success of our event is dependent on donations such as this," according to JMGC's Peter "Dung" Tenorio.

The four different sponsorship packages are Founder's Club (\$5,000), Trustees' Club (\$2,500), Eagle Club

(\$1,000), and Friends of JCF (\$999 and below).

Scoring will be Stroke Play, Low Gross format. Senior/Ladies Flight will be scored Low Net. First, second, and third place winners in each flight divisions will each receive prizes.

Hole-in-ones can win

you a Nissan Titan, Honda Ridgeline, Kia Soul GT, and \$10,000 cash. The tournament will also be followed by an awards banquet and raffle drawing with more chances to win amazing prizes.

All proceeds of the event supports Joeten's charitable Daidai Foundation.

For more information, contact Peter Tenorio at 234-5562 & via email at joetenmgc@joeten.com. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Transpacific Group staff and Joeten Memorial Golf Classic organizing committee staff pose for a photo after Transpacific Group donated \$5,000 in-kind for the upcoming 2019 Joeten Memorial Golf Classic.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 18, 2004

Senate tosses taxi bill back to House

In a move to strengthen the taxicab industry while protecting the insurance sector and the public, the 14th CNMI Senate tossed back to the House the proposed taxi bill, which the senators revised in its entirety. The bill, which passed the House of Representatives, aims to fix the insurance problem faced by taxi operators on the island. The Senate tossed back to the lower chamber House Bill 14-166 after the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs recommended that revisions be looked into, particularly the proposals on the Assigned Plan Risk. Sen. Thomas

Villagomez said the ARP was a major concern during the committee meetings because it was never clarified thoroughly. From a five-page proposal, HB 14-166 now covers over 25 pages that include assignment of ARP to \$250. The current ARP rate is \$25.

\$13M OK'd for CNMI projects

The Commonwealth will receive \$12.423 million in CIP funds—plus another \$1 million for water system improvements—under provisions of the fiscal year 2005 spending bill approved by the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives last week. Gov. Juan N. Babauta, who was in Washington D.C. lobbying for the

Commonwealth prior to the committee's action, said in a statement that he is grateful for the strong support Congress and the Bush administration are giving to the CNMI. The House Committee on Appropriation reported out its recommendations for FY05 funding on June 9. Next, the bill goes to the full House for approval. The Senate has not yet acted on its version of the FY06 spending plan for the Interior Department.

June 18, 2005

Piecemeal budget for PSS gains support

If the Legislature is unable to pass a new budget for the next fiscal year, Gov. Juan N. Babauta favors the passage of a piecemeal budget for the Public School System. "If they want to go piecemeal, let PSS be the first and let everybody else gets the rest. Education is the priority of this administration," said Babauta during a Cabinet meeting last Wednesday.

This came following doubts that the administration's proposal to raise poker fees to generate revenues would pass the Legislature. The administration submitted a \$225.6 million proposed budget for FY 2006 but the House Ways and Means Committee members have agreed to endorse only \$206 million as available resources for the next fiscal year.

Japanese group on pilgrimage tour to NMI

A Japanese mission group is expected to arrive on June 24 for their 60th pilgrimage tour for world prayer, to remember those who perished during World War II for those who are still in the midst of fighting. Pacific Development, Inc. public relations and marketing manager Gordon Marciano said they are expecting close to 300 members to arrive for the event. He said the group, called the Shikogakuen Mission group and led by president Masakazu Kawakami, is

inviting everyone to join them at Banzai Cliff on June 25 at 10am. The group built a memorial monument on Saipan in October 1988 at Banzai Cliff, said Marciano.

June 18, 2008

Tinian GOP backs transparency at Legislature

The Republican Party on Tinian has expressed full support for a proposal to re-apply the Open Government Act to the Legislature. "During these austere times, when our people are suffering so much every time they buy gas to get to work or pay their CUC [Commonwealth Utilities Corporation] bills, it is imperative that our public officials demonstrate a high standard of accountability for CNMI public funds," said former lawmaker Ramon M. Dela Cruz, president of the Tinian Republican Party. The Tinian Republicans collected about 200 signatures

in support of a petition for a popular initiative calling for a more transparent Legislature. The initiative has been submitted to the Attorney General's Office for certification.

NMC fails to get \$3M funding request

The Northern Marianas College's funding request for construction projects has failed to muster support from the administration and the reviewing legislative committee. The House of Representatives' Ways and Means Committee said the proposed \$3-million earmark for NMC is not feasible, as the funds have been reserved for other important projects. The committee urged the House to shelve the appropriation bill. The committee's decision is a setback for NMC's efforts toward getting its accreditation reaffirmed. One of the chief concerns raised by the college's accrediting commission was the poor condition of NMC's physical structures.

MVA joins Taipei Tourism Expo 2019

The Marianas Visitors Authority joined 300 other exhibitors at Taipei Tourism Expo 2019 (TTE) on May 17-20, 2019, sharing information on The Marianas with tour operators, travel agents, travel industry professionals, and the general public.

The international expo, held at Taipei World Trade Center, included 1,097 booths, attracted nearly 310,000 visitors, and served as a platform for tour operators, travel agents, and travel industry professionals.

"This is the MVA's sixth year to join Taipei Tourism Expo, providing us the opportunity to reach this small but active source market," said MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo. "Our booth was strategically located near both the main entrance and the travel trade agent pavilion, and we maximized the opportunity to distribute information on The



Marianas Visitors Authority in-country manager Milane Tsai, third from left, and other representatives promote The Marianas at Taipei Tourism Expo held on May 17-20, 2019, in Taiwan. From left, AVIS Car Rental representative Tim Liu, Pacific International Travel Services president Helen Cheng, Richmond Tour president Chico Chen, Melove Travel chief operation officer Jason Chang, and MVA Taiwan manager Steven Cheng.



Former "Intern to The Marianas" Sunny Lin engages the crowd as she supports The Marianas Visitors Authority in promoting. The Marianas at Taipei Tourism Expo held on May 17-20, 2019, in Taiwan.

Marianas to generate awareness and interest among the travel industry and travelers. The end goal of our Taiwan promotions is to establish direct flights."

MVA joined the expo press

conference at Ambassador Hotel on May 8, where they had a display table to distribute flyers and giveaways and provided information on The Marianas to reporters and VIPs in attendance.

Joining the MVA later at its expo booth were representatives of Pacific International Travel Services, Richmond Tour, Melove Travel, and AVIS Car Rental.

The MVA also launched

its "Intern to The Marianas 2019" online campaign, with previous interns Sunny Lin, Sherry Lin, and Min Chen helping to recruit participants for the "dream job." The launch generated \$54,000 in

media coverage. The office also distributed giveaways to visitors who "liked" the MVA's Taiwan Facebook page. Over 1,600 individuals visited the MVA's booth during the expo. (MVA)

MCS premieres *We Drank Our Tears* series

By **MARC VENUS**

marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mount Carmel School and D&R Visuals premiered the next installment of the *We Drank Our Tears* series last Thursday night at the American Memorial Park with a free admission to the general public.

As a follow up to the last year's stories from Francisco Babauta, Benjamin Abadilla, and Rafael Mafnas; the three new films featured the stories of Carmen Acosta, Sr. Antoineta Ada, and Rosa Agulto.

Last year's films were a resounding success. Rafael Maf-

nas' story, directed by MCS seniors Angelo Manese and Justin Ocampo, was screened at the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival and won Best of Festival at the 2018 Guam International Film Festival.

Acosta's story follows her journey through the jungles during World War II with guidance of her Japanese teacher in order to reunite with her family.

Ada's story focuses on her escaping the ravages of war with her Japanese family.

Lastly, Agulto's story focuses on her journey through the caves as she guides her blind grandmother and her

family to safety.

Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club alumna Aysia Santos directed these films with the help of MCS students William Blake Deleon Guerrero and Quincy Chinen.

All three films are adapted from *We Drank Our Tears*, a 2004 oral history of the civilian experience of World War II battles on Saipan and Tinian, published by the Pacific STAR Young Writers Foundation. In 1944, some of the final battles of World War II were waged on the Pacific islands of Saipan and Tinian. 933 indigenous Chamorro and

Refaluwasch civilians did not survive the battles, and film chronicle three of their stories.

The film's cast and crew included a wide range of talent from across the islands. The team of MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, NMC's Frankie Elliptico, Denton Pangelinan, Rita Indalecio, Don

Muna, and Ken Muna produced all three films.

Deleon Guerrero noted how the stories are coming full circle. "For the 60th anniversary, the *We Drank Our Tears* book was published to chronicle the experience of civilians in the war. Fifteen years later, we are keeping

those stories alive by bringing them to life in film," he said.

The three new films were screened after the encore screening of the original trilogy.

These films were produced as part of the CNMI's 75th anniversary commemoration of the end of World War II battles in the islands.

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Tel: (670) 234-7859 | Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Huang, Xiufang

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE MATTER)
OF THE PETITION TO) FCD-GU-CIVIL
APPOINT GENERAL) ACTION
GUARDIANSHIP FOR:) NO. 19-0267
NIU, ZENGHUA,)
A Minor Child,) NOTICE OF HEARING
By:) ON PETITIONER'S
HUANG, XIUFANG,) PETITION FOR
Petitioner.) APPOINTMENT OF
GENERAL)
GUARDIANSHIP)

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Court shall hear the above-entitled matter on this 12th day of August, 2019 at 9:00 p.m., for Petitioner Huang, Xiufang's Notice of Hearing on Petition for Appointment of General Guardianship. The parties are directed to be present at the hearing at which time the Court shall consider the Petition.

SO ORDERED on this 4th day of June, 2019.

/s/
Deputy Clerk of Court

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(670) 323-3185, 285-2008, 235-3313



**Military Veterans Town Hall Meeting on:
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm
at the Veterans Affairs Office
1364 Anatahan Dr. Capital Hill, Saipan**

**Town Hall Meeting to discuss current and
all Military Veterans related issues.**

**If you have questions contact:
Vivian S. Taitano at (670) 664-2651**

Opinion

Hafa Adair Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIAL

Time for US Senate to take on climate change

Climate change and other consequences of carbon pollution will shape lives around the world for generations, sweeping across class lines and international borders. Lamentably, America's deep partisan divide has become impassable ground for most attempts to confront this worsening crisis. A strong consensus on environmental issues and pragmatic solutions must be developed by our nation's leaders.

Bills now before the U.S. Senate provide distinct opportunities, one modest and one sweeping, to acknowledge reality. Increasingly extreme weather patterns around the globe, rampant wildfires and ocean acidification won't be stemmed without strong action.

As a first step, the Senate needs to stand up to President Donald Trump. The president's spectacularly wrongheaded decision to withdraw America from the Paris climate agreement must be reversed. Senate Bill 1743 and the House-passed HR 9 would each stop this withdrawal and call for a federal plan for meeting the Paris accord's carbon-reduction standards, which 185 nations have ratified.

That move, advocated by both of Washington's senators, wouldn't heal our world by itself. It would demonstrate that American leadership comprehends the gravity of the global situation and desires meaningful progress. It would also likely draw a presidential veto, but the legislation has a more urgent problem. Whether out of fealty to Trump or refusal to acknowledge climate-change realities — or both — the Republicans who control the Senate have been unwilling to allow either bill to advance.

The version that passed the House received token bipartisan support; three of its 231 "yes" votes came from Republican representatives, all elected from East Coast states. Their Senate counterparts must show similar independence and move a Paris restoration bill forward, even without evidence of a veto-proof majority, to show the world — and the Trump administration — that the Senate has a bipartisan sense of the need for international solidarity.

A smaller step toward establishing meaningful environmental consensus has drawn broader bipartisan support within and beyond Washington's House delegation. Rep. Derek Kilmer, a Democrat, worked with Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler, a Republican, on a bill for innovative solutions to ocean acidification that passed the House 395-22.

Acidification is fed by the same greenhouse-gas pollution that hastens climate change. Carbon waste alters the ocean's chemistry, making waters more acidic. The shellfish business that employs more than 2,700 Washingtonians faces imminent danger from this. According to a 2017 University of Washington study, the \$220 million Dungeness crab industry "will likely suffer" when ocean waters' ongoing progression makes them acidic enough to kill off the tiny creatures crabs eat.

Kilmer's bill would empower federal agencies to spend

See **TIME** on Next Page



A new super-tax break: Investing in "Opportunity Zones"

Last time we spoke about a powerful tax strategy—1031 exchanges. Now let's discuss another option: Investing in opportunity zones.

In 2017, Congress updated tax law. At the time, people focused on how the law slimmed corporate tax rates. But it also created a new tax break—Opportunity Zone investments—that reduces current capital-gain tax and wipes away future capital-gains tax. These breaks can mean thousands for the average person and hundreds of thousands for the wealthy. Want to know how?

We'll get to that shortly. But let's begin with some background. The tax incentive was designed to solve two problems at once. Problem 1: American taxpayers had about \$6 trillion (yes, with a "t") in unrealized capital gains sitting on the sideline because of (high) tax rates. Problem 2: While unemployment is low and the stock market has soared since the Great Recession, the recovery's benefits have overwhelming went to a handful of metro areas.

So, how did Congress kill two birds with one stone? By offering a massive tax break for people investing their portion of the \$6 trillion in unrealized gains, but only if they invest in less affluent areas that have been designated as an Opportunity Zone—including much of the CNMI.

How does the incentive work? In three stages. The first stage defers tax on the investment where you've already generated a capital-gain tax. The second stage rolls back up to 15% of your capital-gains tax. And the third stage wipes out your capital-gains tax for the new investment you made using your original capital gains. Combined, these three stages can add up to huge tax savings.

Now for the details.

Unlike some tax breaks (namely 1031 exchanges), the Opportunity Zone incentive applies to capital gains across a broad range of investments, including stock, real estate, and personal property.

Better yet, you only need to reinvest the gain, not the full sale price. So, for example, if you bought a stock for \$10,000 and sold it for \$11,000, you can keep your original investment of \$10,000 and reinvest the \$1,000 of capital gains.

But don't wait too long: The clock is ticking. You must invest that money within 180 days of recognizing the gain (which is accountant-speak for the moment an investment was sold for more money than it was bought). And you must invest the gain in a corporation or partnership that was specifically created to invest in Opportunity Zones and has at least 90% of its assets in Opportunity Zones.

Once you've made the investment, you can enjoy three benefits.

First, you can, in effect, get an interest-free loan from the IRS. That's because you don't have to pay any tax on your original gain until you sell Opportunity Zone investment or December 31, 2026, whichever happens first.

But it gets better. Assuming you hold onto your Opportunity Zone investment for five years, then the amount you will eventually have pay on the original gain will drop 10%. And if you keep holding for another two years (7 in all), then the drop will go from 10% to 15%.

By **JORDAN SUNDELL**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jordan Sundell is a lawyer primarily practicing business and real-estate law. He formerly worked for the CNMI Supreme Court and Bridge Capital and is now general counsel for several real-estate companies, including JZ Group. His columns—focused mainly on real estate and small business—are published every other Tuesday. Contact Sundell at jsundell@jzgroupinc.com.



And best for last: If you hold your investment for 10 years, then you don't have to pay any capital gains on your Opportunity Zone investment. None.

So, if you do it right, you can use money that you normally would have paid to the IRS to fund an investment. Seven years later, you would pay the tax, but only 85% of what you would have originally paid. Ten years later, you would not have to pay any capital-gains tax on the new investment. And, as icing on the cake, you would (hopefully) receive regular cash payments from your Opportunity Zone investment throughout those 10 years.

To put that in concrete terms, let's look at an example. Sal buys a home for \$100,000 in 2010 and sells it for \$200,000 in 2019. Assume the gain is \$100,000 (for simplicity), which Sal puts into an Opportunity Zone investment. Ten years later, Sal sells his investment for \$200,000.

In this scenario, Sal's capital gain for the original investment was \$100,000. But since he held his Opportunity Zone Investment for more than seven years, he only needed to pay 85% of the original capital gain. So, he only needed to pay capital-gains tax on \$85,000 rather than \$100,000. Thus, assuming a capital-gains tax rate of 20%, he paid \$17,000 in taxes rather than \$20,000—a savings of \$3,000. And since he ultimately held the Opportunity Zone investment for 10 years, he paid no capital-gain tax on the \$100,000 gain from that investment—a savings of \$20,000 (again assuming a 20% tax rate). That's \$23,000 in all.

Not bad, eh. And yet the number is actually better. How so? Because for 7 years, Sal didn't pay tax on his original investment. That allowed the deferred capital-gains tax (\$20,000) to make him extra money in the new investment. Assuming a 7% return, over those 7 years the deferred taxes grew to a little over \$32,000, all tax-free. That's \$12,000 more than if Sal had not invested his capital gains, bringing the total benefit to \$35,000.

Sounds great, right? It could be. But like anything, some caution is needed. Don't invest in something just because it is an Opportunity Zone investment. Make sure the investment is sound. And make sure it has a good chance of turning a profit: Because while the Opportunity Zone incentive will supercharge a winning investment, it won't save a losing one.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Epitaph of CNMI democracy

One of the greatest presidents in modern times once said “ask not what your country can do for you but what can you do for your country.” This proved to be a prophetic statement and it still rings so true today. We have developed a political system where no longer to candidates offer us real solutions as their platforms are just ink on paper and they hardly ever mention it during election time because they are entirely too busy putting down their opposition. Our politicians have lost the true “art of politicking” and it has boiled down to a “popularity contest” for the lack of a better example. The mindset of our politicians is “what can I do or say to get elected?” not what can I do for my community, which is why we have so many Republicans and virtually no Democrats. But the true question they should all be asking is what can I do or say that will prove I can help the people and our Commonwealth?

The people of the CNMI need to be getting prepared to ask the hard questions at the governor’s public outreach explanation given the vast majority of us are bewildered about our situation that nobody, especially the governor, seems to have seen coming. I’m sure most readers know this outreach is pretty much a “white-wash job” because I don’t believe they can explain their way out of this mess for the governor. And speaking of the governor, you will notice he will not be there to answer the questions that people want to hear the answers from him that is if questions are even allowed.

One day everything is fine and the next day we are suddenly \$27 million short and its austerity with no warning or planning that should have been implemented the day after Yutu as you don’t have to be an economist to know that our tourism was going to take a hit. 1. So why weren’t the people informed of this economic hit immediately after Yutu instead of seven months later? I don’t have to tell any business person or student of finance or economics that there is something very wrong with that picture given our budget and expenditures are based on “projections” – meaning someone had to know a month or two after Yutu that the projected income for the government would be facing hard times but we were told prosperity. 2. Why weren’t the projected income decrease made known the months BEFORE The election? 3. What was the government’s collection the months before Yutu and what was the government’s collections the months after Yutu as there has to have been a constant decline and not a rapid one that fell on our heads suddenly? 4. So, why did the governor wait for seven months after Yutu to start talking austerity? 5. Why did the governor make a State of the Commonwealth Address touting prosperity to get elected but never mentioned austerity might lay ahead within months—five months to be exact? 6. How much did the \$200 million form the feds help the government given the governor’s Cabinet got paid “overtime against the law” before the first responders? 7. What is the governor going to do about the BOE members getting a six-figure salary raise that is totally absurd given the BOE is a part-time job that pays them more than the Legislature?

I hope someone or at least one of the independents who have been vocal on this will ask these hard questions that have been prepared by the teacher on this Thursday’s outreach presentation as the answers will surely reveal the governor “knowing” held back on the austerity issue until after the election. Like my mother told me that “telling a half-truth is really telling a whole lie” and that is what the governor did to his people to get elected! But will voters even remember in three years and hold him accountable is the bigger question that we won’t know the answer to until the election. Two other questions that will be answered in the next election is what new people will run for the BOE posts that will be up for renewal as we need to get rid of everyone on the present board for what they have done in giving themselves ridiculous raises and for what they are trying to do to teaches and for failing to do anything to prevent teachers from taking the austerity hit such as “promising teachers back-pay” to make up for the cut which would put the earnest on the governor and the government, not teachers. But bullies don’t think like that they just kowtow to the people with real power (the governor) and take care of themselves with a raise.

What are the hard questions the NMD group is going to ask the director of Carolinian Affairs given they have or had a meeting? But what I found to be even more important questions that

need answering by the governor, not his emissaries, are the ones raised by Senator Manglona and kudos to the senator for asking some of the hard questions that demand answers.

Senator Manglona said: According to your Dec. 31, 2018 letter to the presiding officers of the Legislature, our fiscal challenges actually began about a year ago. So I ask the question, why didn’t the governor tell the people this important fact given its importance in his State of the Commonwealth Address?

What is the reason for the drastic decrease in CBGRT? In FY 2016, Imperial Pacific International paid approximately \$41 million; in FY 2017, \$68 million; in FY 2018, \$44 million; and in 2019, IPI paid a mere \$41,000 since last July which proves the governor knew there was going to be a short-all coming but he didn’t say a word.

What is the impact of Public Law 20-85 on the government’s collection of FY 2019 CBGRT? Did this new law allow IPI to write-off significant loans given to high rollers as bad debts, in full or in part, from casino gross income when figuring its taxable income, thus resulting in tens of millions in CBGRT losses this fiscal year? Is there anything that the Legislature can amend in this new law to have an accountable application pertaining to casino bad debts, such as requiring collateral as security for these loans to be qualified?

I will answer this one, as the Legislature can make a law requiring that all lines of credit must pay the tax on the money credited first before being executed” and if the complete line of credit is not used then a refund should be issued on what is due. Stop the need to collect CNMI taxes on credit lines as we (the CNMI) are already owed more than our yearly budget. The CNMI should have a say in the line of credit given our vested interest with taxes being paid. But the senator went on to raise other important questions about the casino like “how is the exclusive casino annual license fee of \$15 million being manipulated and where are the mandatory casino reports on the construction progress that the public has never heard anything about.” Heck I would like to know and I’m sure NMDs would like to know why is the governor trying to manipulate MPLT for \$15 million with a plan that is actually deficit spending which violates CNMI law?

Why is the governor leaving out unavoidable costs from the budget including government utilities, medical referral services, Medicaid matching requirements, CHCC indigent care costs, and PSS’ 25 percent? These are cost that should be included in the governor’s budget but no one in the Legislature caught it they really didn’t see it because they rubberstamped the budget. This is a clear example of why we need two parties in our Legislature to apply real checks and balances to the outcomes of our government. There are many other questions that our governor needs to answer but the message should be clear that we need to fix our democracy to prevent future car wrecks of us being “blindsided” with austerity when it could have been avoided to a very high degree.

Ambrose M. Bennett

Kagman

Failure is not an option

The recent implementation of austerity measures by our government came as a surprise for many people. The budget shortfall was blamed on a few obvious reasons, the biggest being the devastation by Super Typhoon Yutu in August of last year as well as the massive dip in our tourism arrivals.

OK, but we know that in the months that followed Yutu, while our residents did not resort to their usual expenses, they did spend a lot of money for recovery and the millions from FEMA and SBA should have resulted in a bump not a dip in our economy. As for tourism, it has rebounded although not with the same numbers for previous years.

So, the questions are, what exactly led to the austerity measures, what are the potential impacts to the residents and how long will it last? Is our government trying to spend less because it has been projecting a dip in its revenues or did it spend way more than it collected thru its tax system? As for the payouts to some in the upper echelons of government who are management not hourly employees and the controversies surrounding those above the norm pay raises, did they contribute to additional costs which ultimately dried up our government’s coffers? Anybody willing to explain?

By now, we’ve known that no matter what we do, our government’s finances and our economy as a whole will always be a little rocky. We’re straddled with issues and problems, some which we can do something about, others beyond our control.

We cannot do anything about our small island economy except hope for the best and prepare for the worst, year after year. We still have to import most goods and products, a chunk of our workforce

consists of people under the CW program, and lacking most natural resources, we produce very little, leaving us doomed as consumers with permanent dependence on factors beyond our control.

These and other issues which until resolved pose an even greater threat to our economic future. These include the exclusion of the Philippines from the H2B program, the scheduled termination of the CNMI investor visa (E2C) this December, and the problems associated with the CW program including the millions being sent off-island instead of being spent locally, the programmed decline in numbers and the newly adopted policies and rules by the U.S. Department of Labor with regard to the CW program.

Those who cannot even begin their multi-million dollar projects, those whose projects cannot be completed because they cannot get workers, those who slave away each and every day, those who took huge financial risks to open a business, those who have to go above and beyond the daily headaches and deal with those seemingly insurmountable red tape forced upon us by the United States, survival becomes a passionate challenge that they sometimes lose along with confidence in our government, our economy and the CNMI as a whole. In the end, many businesses leave with many more have very little options.

Which brings up a question, is there something we can do?

Sure, here and now, fiscal responsibility and accountability are key to continued government operations. There is a need to downsize the government to something that is affordable and efficient. The pay raises just because there are programmed extras in the budget need to be reined in. Better to have control and continuity than letting the fat checks loose while the public suffers.

There are complaints about the number of agencies in the government, the number of lawyers in these agencies in spite of the presence and mission of the AG’s Office, our government’s inability to solve those problems which have plagued the community for way too long (highways which are atrocious, lack of sidewalks for residents and tourists alike, poorly marked pedestrian crosswalks and curbs, etc.), dilapidated and yet to be rebuilt school structures and complexes, the multitude of boards and board members, even the obvious disparity in the numbers and representation in the Legislature (key factor being population sizes in the 3 islands), all these are costs which need to be brought under control.

Now, for those factors which can and do limit and to a degree choke our economy, how about action through the U.S. Congress for the return of our immigration control, the removal of the restrictions by the USDOL and if those fail, the invocation of 902 talks as prescribed by the Covenant. We need workers, we need investors, we need tourists. We need autonomy from the federal government. The Chinese government has already warned its people to not travel to the U.S. Imagine losing the China market. Who will replace that? Japan? Korea? Vietnam? Cambodia, the Philippines? Get real.

We cannot fail our economy. Should that happen, we fail at our democracy. And for generations to come. A worst-case scenario, our economy will tank, people will lose their jobs, cost of living will skyrocket, repossessions and foreclosures will happen for so many and crimes will go up.

Bottom line, we need for our government to act on behalf of the public it represents. Like it or not, we need favorable economic conditions in order to ensure growth and sustainability not only now but for generations to come.

Well, there you have it. And no matter your views, no matter your hopes, it boils down to this: Action not baseless rhetoric. \ Failure is not an option.

Noel S. Reyes

Kannat Tabla

TIMES

From Page 10

within their current budgets to start prize competitions for methods of dealing with ocean acidification. This has great potential to foster creative solutions at a cost-efficient rate a monolithic government agency’s moonshot could never match.

High-reward research prize competitions can leverage the private sector’s resources with wondrous efficiency. The nonprofit XPRIZE Foundation, which dangles research prizes to attract help solving a range of scientific challenges, said its \$10 million 2004 award for private space exploration got 26 teams to produce more than \$100 million worth of research.

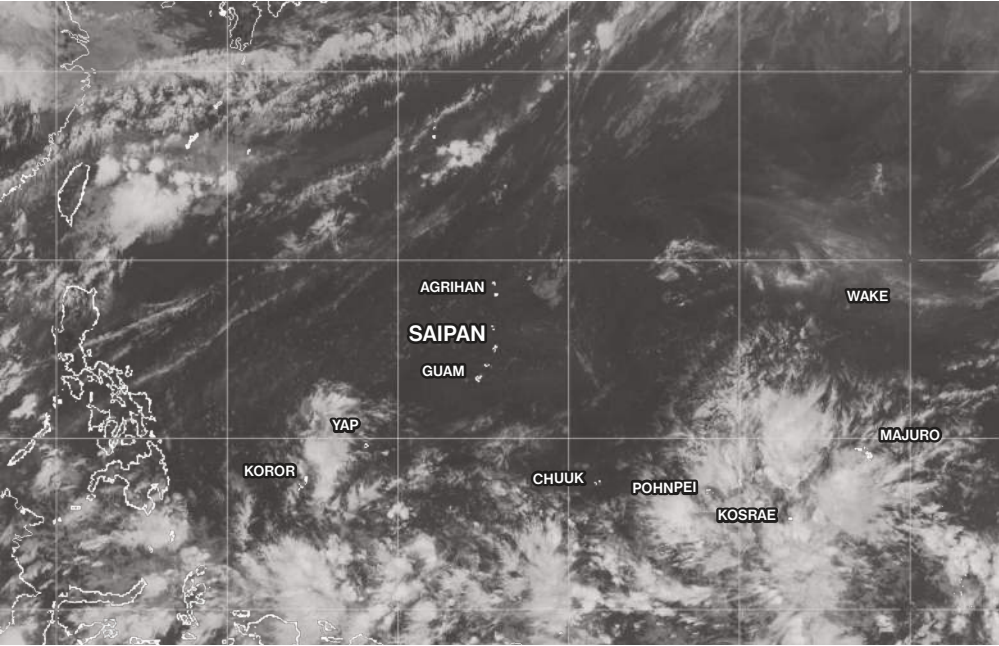
The Senate should take note of this rate of return on investment, approve the acidification prize bill and rejoin the world in confronting the consequences of society’s advances.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:41 AM, MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

This dry season pattern will continue for at least the next week with little change. A couple of disturbances are found in Micronesia, with one over Kosrae State spreading showers and clouds over the NW Marshall Islands. Models show this system moving west, staying mostly south of 10N, but a few more clouds are expected to reach the Marianas late in the week around Thursday night and Friday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	57° / 52°	
Beijing	Thunderstorm	93° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	89° / 76°	
London	Partly Cloudy	70° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	72° / 61°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	97° / 81°	
Melbourne	Showers	54° / 39°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°	
New York	Thunderstorm	76° / 66°	
Osaka	Thunderstorm	82° / 70°	
Paris	Cloudy	82° / 64°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	77° / 66°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	88° / 64°	
Salem	Thunderstorm	89° / 72°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 56°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	81° / 64°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	81° / 66°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	88° / 72°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 2, 2019

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 3, 5, 7
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	09:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily

1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan & Tinian

PHOTOS By MARC VENUS



Chairman of the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian, Peter Paul Camacho, delivers the call to order during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Members of the Saipan Pacific Winds and the Marine Forces Brass Quintet perform the CNMI national anthem during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Bishop Ryan Jimenez performs the invocation during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Superintendent of NMI and Guam National parks, Barbara Alberti, delivers her welcoming remarks during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Members of the DPS Color Guard perform the posting of colors during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Keynote speaker David "Uncle Dave" M. Sablan, Sr. delivers his speech during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres delivers his opening remarks during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Members of the audience listen to David "Uncle Dave" Sablan's speech during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Members of the DPS Firing Detail perform the 21 Gun Salute during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.



Members of different military branches pose with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang for a photo during the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Saipan and Tinian Wreath Laying Ceremony last Saturday at the American Memorial Park.

Business

Café Winchell's relocates to Middle Road

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

Café Winchell's is back after a year of hiatus and has now found a new home at Saipan Vegas Resort on Middle Road. They formally opened last Thursday and will be serving the company's signature fresh donuts and coffee all day, every day for 24 hours.

"We closed down in Garapan last year and we were really interested to open in the same area but unfortunately, we found some but didn't meet our needs and it was hard to find any other vacancy in that area," said Marjorie Cabrera, operation consultant of Winchell's Saipan and Guam.

"So what happened was Saipan Vegas Resort general manager Gus Noble, a regular customer of ours at the Winchell's Susupe branch approached our operations manager, Laidy Ignacio, and asked if we can open Winchell's at the [Saipan Vegas Resort]. He said he wanted to provide his customers better snacks and coffee and what better than Winchell's to provide that especially on late nights," she added.

That proposal clicked like a light bulb for Cabrera and the rest of Winchell's management. They realized that it is also a good pathway for tourists coming in on late nights.



Café Winchell's located at Saipan Vegas Resort on Middle Road.

"They can actually stop by and grab a snack to eat here or take to the hotel. On Saipan, there's not a lot of places that's open 24 hours or after 8pm so we want to provide that service both to the locals and tourists," Cabrera said.

"As we study the flow of people on Middle Road, we realized it is pretty busy. There are many offices, shops, and schools. Although we wanted an area in Garapan or Beach

Road, I guess being here on Middle Road, we also cater to a good percentage of locals.

Ignacio said that aside from donuts and coffee, Winchell's Middle Road includes special items that their customers have grown to love. "Our 'fraps' are getting popular and if customers want to add tapioca we can do that. We serve our new and improved 'chillas'—flavored iced tea like watermelon, peach, mango and iced coffee in caramel, hazelnut and vanilla," she said.

"We also offer all-time favorites like the clam chowder, arroz caldo, spaghetti and we plan to include more products in the future like bento boxes," she added.

The opening was also graced by Winchell's Guam and Saipan co-owner Keomi Noble. "Winchell's has been on Saipan for 33 years. I think the reason why we are still here is that we grow with the people of Saipan and we are happy and committed to serve them," she said.



Fresh donuts, coffee, and other all-time favorites are served 24 hours a day in the new Café Winchell's located at Saipan Vegas Resort on Middle Road.



From left, Winchell's operations manager Laydie Ignacio, Saipan Vegas Resort general manager Gus Noble, and Winchell's operation consultant for Guam and Saipan Marjorie Cabrera cut the ribbon marking the formal opening of Café Winchell's on Middle Road last Thursday.

CEO: Boeing made mistake in handling warning-system problem

PARIS (AP)—The chief executive of Boeing said the company made a "mistake" in handling a problematic cockpit warning system in its 737 Max jets before two crashes killed 346 people, and he promised transparency as the aircraft maker works to get the grounded plane back in flight.

Speaking before the industry-wide Paris Air Show, Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg told reporters Boeing's communication with regulators, customers and the public "was not consistent. And that's unacceptable."

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has faulted Boeing for not telling regulators for more than a year that a safety indicator in the cockpit of the top-selling plane didn't work as intended.

Boeing and the FAA have said the warning light wasn't critical for flight safety.

It is not clear whether either crash could have been prevented if the cockpit alert had been working properly. Boeing says all its planes, including the Max, give pilots all the flight information—

including speed, altitude and engine performance—that they need to fly safely.

But the botched communication has eroded trust in Boeing as the company struggles to rebound from the passenger jet crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia.

"We clearly had a mistake in the implementation of the alert," Muilenburg said.

Pilots also have expressed anger that Boeing did not inform them about the new software that's been implicated in the fatal crashes.

Muilenburg expressed confidence that the Boeing 737 Max would be cleared to fly again later this year by U.S. and all other global regulators.

"We will take the time necessary" to ensure the Max is safe, he said.

The model has been grounded worldwide for three months, and regulators need to approve Boeing's long-awaited fix to the software before it can return to the skies.

Muilenburg called the crashes of the Lion Air and Ethiopian Airlines jets a "defining moment" for Boeing, but said

he thinks the result will be a "better and stronger company."

In the United States, Boeing has faced scrutiny from members of Congress and the FAA over how it reported the problem involving a cockpit warning light.

The feature, called an angle of attack or AoA alert, warns pilots when sensors measuring the up-or-down pitch of the plane's nose relative to oncoming air might be wrong. Boeing has admitted engineers realized within months of the plane's 2017 debut that the sensor warning a light only worked when paired with a separate, optional feature but didn't report the issue for more than a year, after the crash in Indonesia.

The angle-measuring sensors have been implicated in the Lion Air crash in Indonesia last October and the Ethiopian Airlines crash in March. The sensors malfunctioned, alerting anti-stall software to push the noses of the planes down. The pilots were unable to take back control of the planes.

Boeing told the FAA of what it learned in 2017 after the Indonesia crash.

Will it work? Glitzy casino opening on industrial waterfront

EVERETT, Mass. (AP)—A \$28 million statue of Popeye by the artist Jeff Koons. Luxury, "European-style" water shuttles. Five-star hotel rooms starting at about \$650 a night.

After months of turmoil and uncertainty, Wynn Resorts' flamboyant Encore Boston Harbor casino opens June 23 just over the city line in Everett, Massachusetts.

The \$2.6 billion gambling, hotel and entertainment complex brings Las Vegas opulence to the unlikely of places: a largely industrial waterfront home to a subway train repair yard, a water and sewer agency facility and a power plant.

Massachusetts leaders hope the resort and its curved, bronze-toned hotel tower—echoing the company's distinctive properties in Vegas and Macau—transforms the city's reputation as an industrial afterthought.

"We were ready for something like this," Mayor Carlo DeMaria said last week, putting forth a vision of a thriving waterfront district of ho-

tels, restaurants and shops. "Everett will no longer be that place where the scrap yards and the used car lots and the power plant are."

Key to that revival, DeMaria and casino officials say, is the company's nearly \$70 million environmental clean-up of the 33-acre (13-hectare) former chemical plant land and its shoreline. A new 6-acre (2-hectare) park featuring a harbor walk and gardens will give the public access to the city's waterfront for the first time in more than a century.

Wynn Resorts has also purchased a number of homes and businesses leading up to the casino's grand entry and begun razing them, with promises of future redevelopment.

Casino officials have declined media requests to tour the property in recent months, opting instead to showcase it on a single preview on June 21.

Speaking at his offsite administrative office last week, Encore Boston Harbor President Robert DeSalvio highlighted the attractions the company hopes will make

the casino stand out in an increasingly crowded Northeast market.

Much like the company's other properties, Encore Boston Harbor will feature millions of dollars in original artwork.

A fanciful carousel sculpture made up of 83,000 flowers and 11,000 jewels will greet visitors at the casino entry. Murano glass chandeliers will dangle from the gambling floor ceiling. And Koons' Popeye will stand sentry by the casino's meeting rooms.

"At the end of the day, people want to come for an experience," DeSalvio said. "Our team has spanned the globe to find very special touches. All of it creates a bespoke entertainment experience. It's a place for people to come back to time and time again."

With more than 8 million patrons expected to visit annually, DeSalvio also stressed the casino's efforts to ease traffic snarls, a major concern for long-suffering Boston residents and commuters.

Nation

Record number of African migrants coming to Mexican border

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—Undaunted by a dangerous journey over thousands of miles, people fleeing economic hardship and human rights abuses in African countries are coming to the U.S.-Mexico border in unprecedented numbers, surprising Border Patrol agents more accustomed to Spanish-speaking migrants.

Officials in Texas and even Maine are scrambling to absorb the sharp increase in African migrants. They are coming to America after flying across the Atlantic Ocean to South America and then embarking on an often harrowing overland journey.

In one recent week, agents in the Border Patrol's Del Rio sector stopped more than 500 African migrants found walking in separate groups along the arid land after splashing across the Rio Grande, children in tow.

That is more than double the total of 211 African migrants who were detained by the Border Patrol along the entire 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) U.S.-Mexico border in the 2018 fiscal year.

"We are continuing to see a rise in apprehensions of immigrants from countries not normally encountered in our area," said Raul Ortiz, head of the U.S. Border Patrol's Del Rio sector.

The immigrants in Texas were mostly from the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Angola. Cameroonians have also been traveling up through Mexico and into the U.S. in



In this June 13, 2019 photo, a migrant couple sit with their belongings inside the Portland Exposition Building in Portland, Maine.

larger numbers and seeking asylum at ports of entry.

On recent Saturday in Tijuana, there were 90 Cameroonians lined up to get on a waiting list to request asylum that has swelled to about 7,500 names. Also on the waiting list are Ethiopians, Eritreans, Mauritians, Sudanese and Congolese.

Cameroonians generally fly to Ecuador because no visa is required and take about four months to reach Tijuana. They walk for days in Panama through dense jungle, where they are often

robbed and held in government-run camps. They come from Cameroon's English-speaking south with horrifying stories of rape, murder and torture committed since late 2016 by soldiers of the country's French-speaking majority, which holds power.

A few days after the big groups of African immigrants were apprehended in Texas, federal officials dropped off dozens of them in San Antonio. Officials in the Texas city sent out a plea for French-speaking volunteers for translating

work "and most importantly, making our guests feel welcome."

Many were bused to Portland, Maine, about as far as one can get from the Mexican border and still be in the continental United States. Word has spread among migrants that the city of 67,000 is a welcoming place. Somali refugees were resettled in Portland in the 1990s.

A total of 170 asylum seekers arrived in recent days. Hundreds more are expected in an influx that City Manager Jon Jennings called unprecedented. With one shelter already full, a basketball venue

called the Portland Exposition Building was converted into an emergency shelter.

Portland officials tweeted Thursday that rumors some of the migrants are carrying the Ebola virus "are patently false," and said that as asylum seekers, they are in the United States legally.

On Thursday afternoon, families in the Expo chatted in French and Portuguese as children kicked a soccer ball near rows of cots. One of the men, 26-year-old Prince Pombo, described himself as a pro-democracy activist and said he had fled his native country, the Democratic Republic of

Congo, because of political oppression. He went to neighboring Angola, then flew to Brazil. There, he met a local woman and they had a baby they named Heaven. Now 16-months old, she giggled as she played with her mother in the Expo. Pombo said his journey from Congo to America took three years.

More migrants are on the way. Mexico is on pace to triple the number of African immigrants it is processing this year, up from 2,100 in 2017.

Mbi Deric Ambi, from the English-speaking part of Cameroon, is among them. In a recent interview in the southern Mexican city of Tapachula, Ambi said he was waiting for a document from the Mexican authorities that would allow him to proceed north to the U.S. He traveled overland through South and Central America after flying to Ecuador.

Human Rights Watch says 1,800 people have been killed and half a million have fled their homes in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon since late 2016. A United Nations official says 4.3 million people need humanitarian assistance.

"We don't have jobs in the English part, the educational system is poor, they are looking at us as dogs," Ambi said as a crowd of migrants jostled outside an immigration center in Tapachula, waiting for their names to be called to collect their travel document. Ambi has been waiting every morning for six weeks.

"We just have to be patient, because there is nothing we can do," he said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Swastika found at cemetery where WWII soldiers are buried

JACKSON, Mich. (AP)—A swastika has been found in a Jackson County cemetery where World War II soldiers are buried. Jackson Mayor Derek Dobies has reported the vandalism at the Mount Evergreen Cemetery to the police department. Authorities believe it happened before the weekend, possibly early Friday morning. City officials say about 120 WWII veterans are buried at the cemetery in Jackson. The vandalism has upset members of the community. Yasirah Nelson's great grandfather is buried at the cemetery. She says Nazis invaded his city in Germany, prompting him to flee to the U.S. and join the Army in 1941. She hopes the person responsible for the vandalism will learn more about WWII and its lasting impact.

Texas governor OKs budget with \$1M gun storage safety effort

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has approved a spending bill that includes a \$1 million public safety campaign for firearm storage. The Republican signed a \$250 billion two-year budget Saturday without any line-item vetoes. It includes money for the Texas Department of Public Safety to promote a safe gun storage campaign. The National Rifle As-

sociation and gun-rights activists had opposed similar legislation in Texas, where they've been a powerful force in a state with 1.3 million handgun license holders. An NRA lobbyist told lawmakers that a campaign designed by Texas state police could be corrupted by anti-gun rhetoric. The program follows a mass shooting at a high school near Houston last year. Authorities have said the then-17-year-old gunman took his father's weapons before opening fire at Santa Fe High School.

Police: Woman shoved dog into lake, watched as it drowned

MERRIMACK, N.H. (AP)—Police say a New Hampshire woman is charged with shoving her golden retriever off a dock and standing by while the pet drowned. Merrimack Police Chief Denise Roy called the incident earlier this month "disturbing." Sixty-six-year-old Nancy Bucciarelli was arrested Friday on a misdemeanor animal cruelty charge. Witnesses said Bucciarelli stood by and watched on June 8 as her 11-year-old dog struggled in Naticook Lake in Merrimack, New Hampshire. Others jumped into the lake to help, but it was too late. Bucciarelli didn't respond to a message left at her home on Sunday, and it's unclear if she has a lawyer. She is due to appear in court later this month.

LAPD investigates officer's actions in Costco shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles Police Department is gathering evidence and video footage in an administrative investigation into an off-duty officer who shot and killed a man authorities say attacked him inside a Southern California Costco Wholesale warehouse store.

Authorities remained tight-lipped Sunday, not responding to requests for comment about what provoked the Friday night confrontation and whether anyone but the officer was armed. Two others were critically injured in the shooting in Corona, which is about 40 miles (64 kilometers) east of Los Angeles.

The officer opened fire after Kenneth French, 32, of Riverside, "assaulted" him "without provocation" as the officer held his young child, Corona police said Saturday.

Bullets struck French and two of his family members, according to police. The officer was the only person who fired shots in the store, police said.

Rick Shureih, French's cousin, told The Press-Enterprise that he was a "gentle giant" who was mentally disabled.

Shureih also identified the other two victims as French's parents, Russell and Paola French, and said they remained in an intensive care unit Sunday. Authorities have not released their names.

French's family is seeking an attorney, Shureih said, and declined to give specifics about his mental condition.

French was "non-violent, non-aggressive, non-verbal," his cousin said, and "he has to be pretty much monitored."

"He's not the kind to trade words, so I don't believe that

a verbal confrontation happened," Shureih said.

Shureih posted Sunday on his Facebook page a photo of French and his parents.

"I'm posting this picture because the stories on social media have made them out to be the suspects, and the off duty cop the victim," Shureih wrote. "This is a family that was unarmed and was just grocery shopping. Truth will come out! I'm sure this was a misunderstanding that got escalated for no reason!"

The LAPD will continue its internal probe as Corona police and the Riverside County district attorney's office conduct a separate investigation into the shooting. The LAPD said Sunday it had no further information. Corona police and the district attorney's office did not respond to requests for comment Sunday.

Asia

Hong Kong police begin to clear streets of protesters

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong police and protesters faced off Monday as authorities began trying to clear the streets of a few hundred who remained near the city government headquarters after massive demonstrations that stretched deep into the night before.

The police asked for cooperation in clearing the road but said the protesters could stay on the sidewalks. Protesters, many in masks and other gear

to guard against possible use of tear gas, responded with chants, some kneeling in front of the officers. The move came after activists rejected an apology from the city's top leader for her handling of legislation that has stoked fears of expanding control from Beijing in this former British colony.

Groups of police, most in normal uniforms not riot gear, sought to clear the roads of metal and plastic barricades to enable traffic to pass through.

In some places, the protesters quickly moved to put them back to block traffic.

Hundreds of protesters were sitting or lying along a main road through downtown, but they were scattered over a relatively wide area.

Activists called on Hong Kong residents to boycott classes and work, though it was unclear how many might heed that call.

Nearly 2 million of the city's 7 million people turned

out on Sunday, according to estimates by protest organizers. Police said 338,000 were counted on the designated protest route in the "peak period" of the march. A week earlier as many as 1 million people demonstrated to voice their concern over Hong Kong's relations with mainland China in one of the toughest tests of the territory's special status since Beijing took control in a 1997 handover.

The scenes were simi-

lar to those seen nearly five years earlier, when protesters camped for weeks in the streets to protest rules that prevented the direct election of the city's chief executive, the top local official.

One of the activists arrested after those demonstrations, Joshua Wong, was due to be released from prison Monday. He served half of a two-month jail sentence for contempt.

After daybreak Monday, police lined up several officers deep and faced off against several hundred demonstrators on a street in central Hong Kong.

The night before, as protesters reached the march's end thousands gathered outside the city government headquarters and the office of Chief Executive Carrie Lam, who on Saturday suspended her effort to force passage of the bill.

Hong Kong residents worry

that allowing some suspects to be sent for trial in mainland China would be another of many steps chipping away at Hong Kong's freedoms and legal autonomy. One concern is that the law might be used to send criminal suspects to China to potentially face vague political charges, possible torture and unfair trials.

The protesters are demanding that Lam scrap the proposal for good and that she step down.

Protesters are also angered over the forceful tactics by police use of tear gas, rubber bullets and other forceful measures as demonstrators broke through barricades outside the city government's headquarters to quell unrest during demonstrations on Wednesday, and over Lam's decision to call the clashes a riot. That worsens the potential legal consequences for those involved.



A downtown main road open as protesters leave the area near the Legislative Council following a massive protest against an extradition bill in Hong Kong, Monday, June 17, 2019.

Dozens of new Indian parliamentarians face criminal charges

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's recent national election delivered a historic victory to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist party, but also exposed the influence of money, power and questionable morality on the world's largest democracy.

Nearly 43% of the new members of the lower house of Parliament that convenes Monday for the first time since the election won despite facing criminal charges. More than a quarter of those relate to rape, murder or attempted murder, according to a report by the civic group Association of Democratic Reforms.

The loophole that allows them to take office is that they have not been convicted—in part because the Indian legal system has a huge backlog of an estimated 30 million cases and trials often last decades. When asked about the charges against them, they invariably accuse a political rival of

framing them.

Since such rivalries often lead to false accusations, the main political parties say it would be unfair to bar people from contesting elections unless they have been convicted by court.

Under existing laws, only those who have been sentenced to prison for two years or more can be barred from elections.

Members of Parliament with criminal backgrounds is not a new phenomenon in India, but despite Modi's campaign vow in 2014 to clean up corruption and the influence of money in politics, the problem appears to be only worsening.

In the 2004 national election, the percentage of candidates with pending criminal cases was 24%, which rose to 33% in 2009, 34% in 2014 and 43% this year, said Shahabuddin Y. Quraishi, a former chief election commissioner.

The Association of Demo-

cratic Reforms found that 116 of the 303 lawmakers from Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party elected last month face criminal charges, including one for alleged terrorism.

Pragya Singh Thakur, who won a seat from Bhopal in central India, is awaiting trial in connection with a 2008 explosion in Malegaon in western India that killed seven people.

Twenty-nine of the opposition Congress party's 52 lawmakers face serious charges.

"This trend has been growing in India, leaving no political party untouched. We need to educate voters not to elect these people," said Jagdeep S. Chhokar, ADR's founder.

"What the Indian state has been unable to provide, strongmen promise to deliver to people in their area of influence, using gun and money power," said Lennin Rasghuvanshi, a coordinator with the People's Union for Civil Liberties.

Starting in the 1960s and '70s, some Indian politicians began turning to the criminal underworld for cash to win votes.

"In due course, the criminals started thinking that these politicians were winning because of their money or crimes so why shouldn't they become lawmakers themselves? If they are people running from the police, they know that when they became lawmakers, the same police will protect them," Quraishi said.

In Uttar Pradesh state in northern India, former mafia don Mukhtar Ansari has been elected to the state assembly five times despite more than 40 criminal cases pending against him, including murder.

Another don-turned-politician, Hari Shankar Tiwari, also of Uttar Pradesh, has been a member of the legislative assembly for 23 years, even winning an election while being detained on murder charges.

Thai vets nurture lost baby dugong with milk and sea grass

BANGKOK (AP)—A baby dugong, a large ocean mammal, that has developed an attachment to humans after being separated from its mother and getting lost off southern Thailand is being nurtured by marine experts in hopes that it can one day fend for itself.

The estimated 5-month-old female dugong named Marium has become an internet hit in Thailand after images of marine biologists embracing and feeding it with milk and sea grass spread across social media.

The dugong is a species of marine mammal similar to the American manatee and can grow to about 3.4 meters (11 feet) in length. Its conservation status is listed as vulnerable by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Marium was spotted alone near a beach on Ko Poda island in Krabi province in April. Officials later tried to release it into a dugong habitat off the coast of another island but it swam away.

Veterinarians and volunteers set out each day in canoes to locate Marium near the dugong habitat off Ko Libong island. It does not swim with the herd and usually comes straight to them, then follows them into shallower water, where it is fed milk and sea grass, similar to her natural diet, for up to

15 times a day while also receiving health checks.

Marium's caretakers believe it has formed a bond with humans but is also drawn to the shape of the underside of canoes, perhaps seeing it as a mother substitute.

"She's attached and tries to swim and cling to the boat as if it was her mother and when we are swimming she would come and tuck under our arms. It's almost like the way she would tuck under her mother," said Nantarika Chansue, director of the Aquatic Animal Research Center of Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Veterinarian Science, who advises Marium's caretakers.

"So I think it's not only humans but anything that looks like another dugong that she would be attached to," Nantarika said.

Marium has attained fame on social media, and images of it bonding with its human guardians have been widely published by Thai media. It also attracts crowds on Libong island, where its feeding is often watched by scores of people crowding the seashore.

Veterinarians say they need to continue looking after Marium for at least another year until it can be weaned off of bottled milk, after which they hope it will be able to look after herself without their help.

World

Massive blackout hits tens of millions in South America

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—A massive blackout left tens of millions of people without electricity in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay on Sunday in what the Argentine president called an “unprecedented” failure in the countries’ power grid.

Authorities were working frantically to restore power, and by the evening electricity had returned to 98 percent of Argentina, according to state news agency Telam. Power also had been restored to most of Uruguay’s 3 million people as well as to people in neighboring Paraguay.

On Sunday morning, Argentine voters were forced to cast ballots by the light of cellphones in gubernatorial elections. Public transportation was halted, shops closed and patients dependent on home medical equipment were urged to go to hospitals with generators.

“This is an unprecedented case that will be investigated thoroughly,” Argentine President Mauricio Macri said on Twitter.

Argentina’s power grid is



Technicians of Edenor electricity company stand under the rain as they work to fix a generator during a blackout in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, June 16, 2019.

Energy Regulatory Activity in Argentina. “The problem is known and technology and studies (exist) to avoid it.”

Energy Secretary Gustavo Lopetegui said workers were working to restore electricity nationwide by the end of the day.

“This is an extraordinary event that should have never happened,” he told a news conference. “It’s very serious.”

Uruguay’s energy company UTE said the failure in the Argentine system cut power to all of Uruguay for hours and blamed the collapse on a “flaw in the Argentine network.”

In Paraguay, power in rural communities in the south, near the border with Argentina and Uruguay, was also cut. The country’s National Energy Administration said service was restored by afternoon by redirecting energy from the Itaipu hydroelectric plant the country shares with neighboring Brazil.

In Argentina, only the southernmost province of Tierra del Fuego was unaffected by the outage because it is not connected to the main power grid.

generally known for being in a state of disrepair, with substations and cables that were insufficiently upgraded as power rates remained largely

frozen for years.

The country’s energy secretary said the blackout occurred at about 7 a.m. local time when a key Argentine inter-

connection system collapsed. By mid-afternoon nearly half of Argentina’s 44 million people were still in the dark.

The Argentine energy company Edesur said on Twitter that the failure originated at an electricity transmission point between the power stations at the country’s Yacretá dam and Salto Grande in the country’s northeast.

But why it occurred was still unknown.

An Argentine independent energy expert said that systemic operational and design errors played a role in the power grid’s collapse.

“A localized failure like the one that occurred should be isolated by the same system,” said Raúl Bertero, president of the Center for the Study of

WORLD BRIEFS

Israel moves to name Golan settlement after Trump

RAMAT TRUMP, Golan Heights (AP)—The Trump name graces apartment towers, hotels and golf courses. Now it is the namesake of a tiny Israeli settlement in the Israel-controlled Golan Heights. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s Cabinet convened in this hamlet Sunday to inaugurate a new settlement named after President Donald Trump in a gesture of appreciation for the U.S. leader’s recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the territory. The settlement isn’t exactly new. Currently known as Bruchim, it is over 30 years old and has a population of 10 people. Israel is hoping the rebranded “Ramat Trump,” Hebrew for “Trump Heights,” will encourage a wave of residents to vastly expand it. “It’s absolutely beautiful,” said U.S. Ambassador David Friedman, who attended Sunday’s ceremony. Noting that Trump celebrated his birthday on Friday, he said: “I can’t think of a more appropriate and a more beautiful birthday present.” Israel captured the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 Mideast war and annexed it in 1981. Most of the international community considers the move illegal under international law.

Pope dons helmet to enter earthquake-hit cathedral in Italy

CAMERINO, Italy (AP)—Pope Francis donned a white firefighter’s safety helmet Sunday to enter a damaged cathedral during a visit to central Italy, where he gave encouragement to people still struggling three years after devastating earthquakes struck. Francis traveled to the town of Camerino, which was shaken so badly in 2016 that people are still not allowed into the town center as work continues to stabilize buildings. Before he entered the cathedral, a firefighter’s safety helmet was placed over Francis’ skullcap. Inside the ca-

thedral, he was surrounded by firefighters and clergymen also wearing helmets. He placed flowers at a statue of the Virgin Mary, which was damaged in the earthquake. The statue’s head and arms are missing. The image of Francis wearing a helmet mirrored the scene in Paris on Saturday of churchmen, including the archbishop of Paris, wearing hard hats as they celebrated the first Mass in Notre Dame Cathedral since a fire ravaged the landmark and toppled its spire on April 15.

Crew members of targeted Norwegian-owned tanker now in Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Crew members from a Norwegian-owned oil tanker apparently attacked in the Gulf of Oman landed Saturday in Dubai after two days in Iran as the other tanker targeted in the assault limped into anchorage off the eastern coast of the United Arab Emirates. Both the mariners’ recollection and the physical evidence remaining on the MT Front Altair and the Kokuka Courageous, now off the coast of Fujairah, will play an important role in determining who the international community blames for Thursday’s explosions on board the oil tankers. Already, the U.S. has blamed Iran for what it described as an attack with limpet mines on the two tankers, pointing to black-and-white footage it captured that American officials describe as Iranian Revolutionary Guard troops removing an unexploded mine from the Kokuka Courageous. Tehran rejects the allegation, instead accusing the U.S. under President Donald Trump of pursuing an “Iranophobic” campaign against it. However, Iran previously used mines against oil tankers in 1987 and 1988 in the “Tanker War,” which saw the U.S. Navy escort ships through the region—something American officials may consider doing again.

Pompeo tries rallying foreign leaders in alleged oil attacks

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is reaching out to wary foreign leaders to frame alleged Iranian attacks in a Middle East oil shipping route as a problem for the world at large, especially for Asian countries vitally dependent on that oil.

Pompeo, in a series of Sunday television interviews, emphasized the U.S. international outreach in the wake of what the U.S. says were Iranian attacks Thursday on two oil tankers near the Strait of Hormuz.

“I made a bunch of phone calls yesterday. I’ll make a whole bunch more calls today. The world needs to unite,” Pompeo said. He did not say what kind of action the Trump administration envisioned.

“We are going to work to build out a set of countries that have deep vested interest in keeping that strait open to help us do that,” Pompeo said.

That echoed comments from acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan this past week when he said the U.S. goal is to “build international consensus to this international problem.”

Iran has denied being involved in the attacks and accused America of promoting an “Iranophobic” campaign against it.

Pressed on whether any new U.S. military deployment to the region was possible, Pompeo said that “of course” remained among the options that President Donald Trump may consider to keep shipping safe through the narrow strait, a strategic choke point for oil shipments from the Middle East.

Trump last year withdrew the U.S. from an international agreement, signed in 2015 by President Barack Obama, to limit Iran’s nuclear program. Trump has reinstated economic sanctions and recently ended waivers that allowed some countries to continue buying Iranian oil. That has deprived Iran of oil income and has coincided with what U.S. officials said was a surge in intelligence pointing to Iranian preparations for attacks against U.S. forces and interests in the Gulf region.

The U.S. has accelerated the deployment of the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft car-

rier battle group to the region, sent four nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to Qatar and bolstered its defenses in the region by deploying more Patriot air defense systems.

Some European allies have called for a careful investigation of responsibility, worried that Trump was escalating tensions with a country he has long called a top U.S. enemy.

Pompeo stressed that the U.S. gets relatively little of its energy supplies through the strait, which lies between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. The U.S. Energy Information Administration says 16 percent of U.S. petroleum imports came from the Persian Gulf countries in 2018.

By contrast, about 80% of oil through the shipping passage supplies energy-hungry countries in Asia, including China, Japan, India and South Korea. Those countries have skin in the game, he said.

“I’m confident that when they see the risk—the risk of their own economies and their own people and outrageous behavior of the Islamic Republic of Iran, they will join us in this,” Pompeo said.

Focus

By FOSTER KLUG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The blasts detonated far from the bustling megacities of Asia, but the attack this week on two tankers in the strategic Strait of Hormuz hits at the heart of the region's oil import-dependent economies.

While the violence only directly jolted two countries in the region—one of the targeted ships was operated by a Tokyo-based company, a nearby South Korean-operated vessel helped rescue sailors—it will unnerve major economies throughout Asia.

Officials, analysts and media commentators on Friday hammered home the importance of the Strait of Hormuz for Asia, calling it a crucial lifeline, and there was deep interest in more details about the still-sketchy attack and what the United States and Iran would do in the aftermath.

In the end, whether Asia shrugs it off, as some analysts predict, or its economies shudder as a result, the attack highlights the widespread worries over an extreme reliance on a single strip of water for the oil that fuels much of the region's shared progress.

Here is a look at how Asia is handling rising tensions in a faraway but economically crucial area, compiled by AP reporters from around the world:

WHY ASIA WORRIES

The oil, of course.

Japan, South Korea and China don't have enough of it; the Middle East does, and much of it flows through the narrow Strait of Hormuz.

This could make Asia vulnerable to supply disruptions from U.S.-Iran tensions or violence in the strait.

The attack comes months after Iran threatened to shut down the strait to retaliate against U.S. economic sanctions, which tightened in April when the Trump administration decided to end sanctions exemptions for the five biggest importers of Iranian oil, which included China and U.S. allies South Korea and Japan.

Japan is the world's fourth-largest consumer of oil—after the United States, China and India—and relies on the Middle East for 80% of its crude oil supply. The 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster led to a dramatic reduction in Japanese nuclear power generation and increased imports of natural gas, crude oil, fuel oil and coal.

In an effort to comply with Washington, Japan says it no longer imports oil from Iran. Officials also say Japanese oil companies are abiding by the



Middle East

attack jolts oil-import dependent Asia

AP
Yutaka Katada, president of Kokuka Sangyo Co., the Japanese company operating one of two oil tankers attacked near the Strait of Hormuz, shows a photo of the attacked oil tanker during a news conference Friday, June 14, 2019, in Tokyo. Iran rejects a U.S. accusation against Tehran over suspected attacks on two oil tankers near the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

however, were highlighted by both the timing of the attack and a comment by Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who told Abe that he had nothing to say to Trump.

In Japan, the world's third largest economy, the tanker attack was front-page news.

The Nikkei newspaper, Japan's major business daily, said that if mines are planted in the Strait of Hormuz, "oil trade will be paralyzed." The Tokyo Shimbun newspaper called the Strait of Hormuz Japan's "lifeline."

Although the Japanese economy and industry minister has said there will be no immediate effect on stable energy supplies, the Tokyo Shimbun noted "a possibility that Japanese people's lives will be affected."

South Korea, worried about Middle East instability, has worked to diversify its crude sources since the energy crises of the 1970s and 1980s.

THE FUTURE

Analysts said it's highly unlikely that Iran would follow through on its threat to close the strait. That's because a closure could also disrupt Iran's exports to China, which has been working with Russia to build pipelines and other infrastructure that would transport

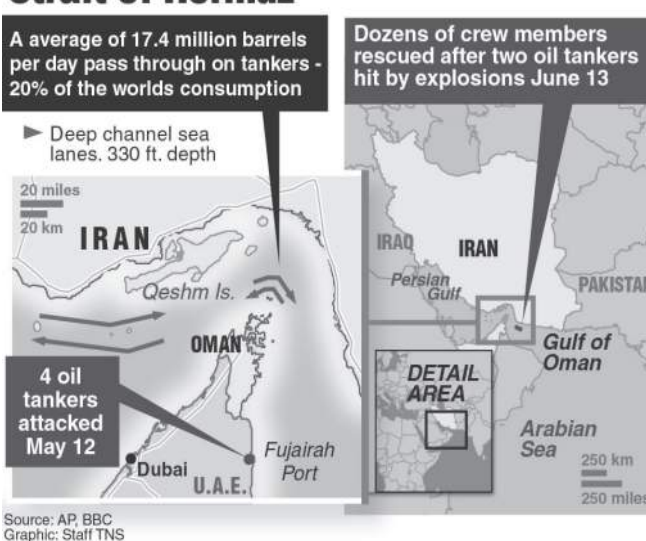
oil and gas into China.

For Japan, the attack in the Strait of Hormuz does not represent an imminent threat to Tokyo's oil supply, said Paul Sheldon, chief geopolitical adviser at S&P Global Platts Analytics.

"Our sense is that it's not a crisis yet," he said of the tensions.

Seoul, meanwhile, will likely be able to withstand a modest jump in oil prices unless there's a full-blown military confrontation, Seo Sang-young, an analyst from Seoul-based Kiwoom Securities, said.

"The rise in crude prices could hurt areas like the airlines, chemicals and shipping, but it could also actually benefit some businesses, such as energy companies (including refineries) that produce and export fuel products like gasoline," said Seo, pointing to the diversity of South Korea's industrial lineup. South Korea's shipbuilding industry could also benefit as the rise in oil prices could further boost the growing demand for liquefied natural gas, or LNG, which means more orders for giant tankers that transport such gas.

Strait of Hormuz

dent on the Strait of Hormuz, which is the passage between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Iran threatened to close the strait in April. It also appears poised to break a 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, an accord that U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew from last year. The deal saw Tehran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of crippling sanctions.

For both Japan and South Korea, there is extreme political unease to go along with the

economic worries stirred by the violence in the strait.

Both nations want to nurture their relationship with Washington, a major trading partner and military protector. But they also need to keep their economies humming, which requires an easing of tension between Washington and Tehran.

Japan's conservative prime minister, Shinzo Abe, was in Tehran, looking to do just that, when the attack happened.

His limitations in settling the simmering animosity,

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:

Think sedans are dead? Check out the new Civic

By CHARLES FLEMING
LOS ANGELES TIMES

While much of the automotive world is abandoning cars in favor of SUVs, Honda is increasing its stake in coupes and sedans by introducing a refreshed line of Civics and adding a Sport model to the family.

That's a direct appeal to younger buyers, Honda executives said as they introduced the new model. Almost 60% of first-time car buyers purchase a sedan, they said, and a lot of them buy Civics. Honda says its bestselling model is the top retail car in the country — for the last three years running.

"Cars remain very important to us," said Steve Center, the company's vice president for auto sales. "The Civic represents an entry to the brand, and our way of dominating the front door. Buyers tend to graduate up the Honda product line."

The Sport represents the brand's attempt to make the Civic sexy. Critics will probably dismiss this as the automotive equivalent of putting playing cards in your bicycle spokes to make it sound like a motorcycle. But in fact the car is sharper-looking and much more fun to drive than the standard Civic, at a price point that young buyers will have a hard time resisting.

All of the 2019 Civics receive a new look — lower and wider bumpers, new grille — that someone who's not looking closely might not appreciate. Though it's sleeker and sportier, it still looks very much like a Civic. In other words, it's quite sensible and a bit dull.



The 2019 Honda Civic Coupe Sport is powered by a 2.0-liter, 4-cylinder engine producing 158 horsepower and 138 lb.-ft. of torque. TNS

Despite that, Honda folks said that for the first time in the car's history customers have added "styling" to their list of top five reasons they'd buy a Civic.

There are interior improvements as well, including a larger cup holder, better sound-deadening materials and back-by-popular-demand physical buttons for volume and climate control. All the Civics also come standard with Honda Sensing, the suite of safety features that includes adaptive cruise control, emer-

gency braking, lane-keeping assist and more.

The new Sport receives superior suspension and quicker steering. Scooting around the city and through a canyon or two, I found it responsive and light on its feet.

Even though Honda representatives said only 6% of Civic buyers opt for a manual transmission, I picked the one with the stick, the better to appreciate the car's engine. (The Sport trim is also available with a CVT automatic transmission fitted with paddle

shifters, as an \$800 upgrade.)

The Sport is powered by Honda's efficient 2-liter, four-cylinder engine, which puts out 158 horsepower and 138 pound-feet of torque. (A 1.5-liter turbocharged engine that makes 174 horsepower is available on higher trims, and also comes in the Civic Hatchback Sport.)

That's not massive, but on the light, spry Civic, especially with a stick shift, it was enough to entertain while staying miserly with the fuel. Honda says the Civic Sport gets up

to 36 mpg on the highway.

More comfort and more sophisticated technology can be found on the EX, EX-L and Touring Civic models. I found the Sport pleasantly analog. More bells and whistles means more things that can go wrong, and I liked the simple dash and the absence of complexity to the HVAC and navigation systems.

Visibility is good, and made better by a rear-view picture that appears in the infotainment screen when the right turn signal is engaged.

NUTS & BOLTS

2019 Honda Civic Sport

- **Times' take:** A sexy Civic?
- **Highs:** Fun to drive, easy to afford
- **Lows:** Still stuck in design doldrums
- **Vehicle type:** Four-door, five-passenger coupe
- **Base price:** \$22,070
- **Price as tested:** \$22,070
- **Powertrain:** 2-liter, four-cylinder gasoline engine
- **Transmission:** Six-speed stick shift
- **Horsepower:** 158
- **Torque:** 138 pound-feet
- **Estimated fuel economy rating:** 25 mpg city / 36 highway / 29 combined

The sport-style, manually adjusted seats are not the last word in comfort, but they seemed adequate. The interior materials soaked up much of the tire and wind noise. The entry-level sound system did its job pretty well.

The rear seating is adequate for average-size humans, and the trunk is big enough to load up for the links.

Honda is counting on the Sport to sell well. Senior product planner Dan Calhoun said 35% of Civic coupe sales will be Sport models, as will 30% of Civic sedan sales, based on numbers already in on the 2019 model-year cars.

Some of those buyers might not have been Civic buyers at all. But some could turn into Honda owners for life.

Many who buy entry-level coupes and hatchbacks today, Honda spokesman Jimmy Jenkins said, will buy a Honda Odyssey minivan in 10 years.

"This is a customer we cherish," he said.

Erratic temperature gauge could indicate thermostat problem

Q: I've noticed an unusual behavior in my pickup when driving it first thing in the morning. The temperature gauge keeps climbing above the usual place (a little less than 200) to about 220, and then it returns to the normal place for the rest of the day. Should I be concerned? It didn't do this before.

— Paul W.

A: This is unusual. I'd start by verifying the coolant level when cold (the only safe time to remove the radiator cap). If low, refill and investigate the cause of leakage. If full, it sounds like the engine thermostat is a bit sticky to open. This situation could worsen and lead to a serious overheating condition if one day the thermostat fails to open correctly. Engines employ a thermostat to promote rapid warm-up — it blocks coolant flow to the radiator when closed — and to maintain minimum engine temperature, which in most cases is about 195 degrees F. It's an inexpensive part and is typically fairly simple to renew.

This might also be a good time to consider replacing all cooling system hoses and coolant if they're more than five or six years old, and perhaps the accessory drive belt as well. Your goal is to take steps to minimize engine, radiator and heater core

corrosion and to insure there are zero cooling system failures to come. Hoses deteriorate from the inside out and typically look good until they decide to let go. Feeling/squeezing hoses and checking for bulging, excessive softness or a ribbed feel (occurs inside) is a way to find out if trouble is looming. Engine overheating is a tragic situation that is fairly simple to avoid!

Q: I just bought a car that has full gauges. I'm not familiar with a volt meter. It reads 14 when I'm driving, and this is in the preferred range. What am I concerned with if it doesn't?

— Suzanne T.

A: Your voltmeter indicates charging system happiness. A reading of 14-14.5 volts while driving indicates the alternator (a belt driven charging device) is meeting the needs of the vehicle's electrical consumption and is charging the battery. A typical car battery, fully charged, provides 12.6 volts to supply power to vehicle accessories when the engine isn't running and to start the engine. (Voltage momentarily drops to 11.5-ish while cranking.)

Think of it like a checking account, it needs refilling! The alternator meets the needs of all vehicle systems while driving and

UNDER THE HOOD

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
Tribune News Service

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pushes against the battery (14 beats 12) to replenish it as needed.

Your most likely concern would be a low reading, such as 11 or 12 while driving, although this is rare. This indicates charging is not occurring and the battery alone is supplying all vehicle needs. In this situation one might be able to drive for one or two hours only, and an engine restart may not be possible. An overcharge situation (15+ volts) is even rarer, and this is caused by a charging system malfunction. This could be harmful to vehicle systems, and driving should be avoided. In a pinch, turning on every possible vehicle accessory may bring the voltage down some while the vehicle is driven to a better place.

Life & Style

'Romeo and Juliet' director Franco Zeffirelli dies at 96

ROME (AP)—Italian director Franco Zeffirelli, who delighted audiences around the world with his romantic vision and extravagant productions, most famously captured in his cinematic "Romeo and Juliet" and the miniseries "Jesus of Nazareth," died Saturday at 96.

While Zeffirelli was most popularly known for his films, his name was also inextricably linked to the theater and opera. He produced classics for the world's most famous opera houses, from Milan's venerable La Scala to the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and plays for London and Italian stages.

Zeffirelli's son Luciano said his father died at home in Rome.

"He had suffered for a while, but he left in a peaceful way," he said.

Zeffirelli made it his mission to make culture accessible to the masses, often seeking inspiration in Shakespeare and other literary greats for his films, and producing operas aimed at TV audiences. Claiming no favorites, Zeffirelli once likened himself to a sultan with a harem of three: film, theater and opera.

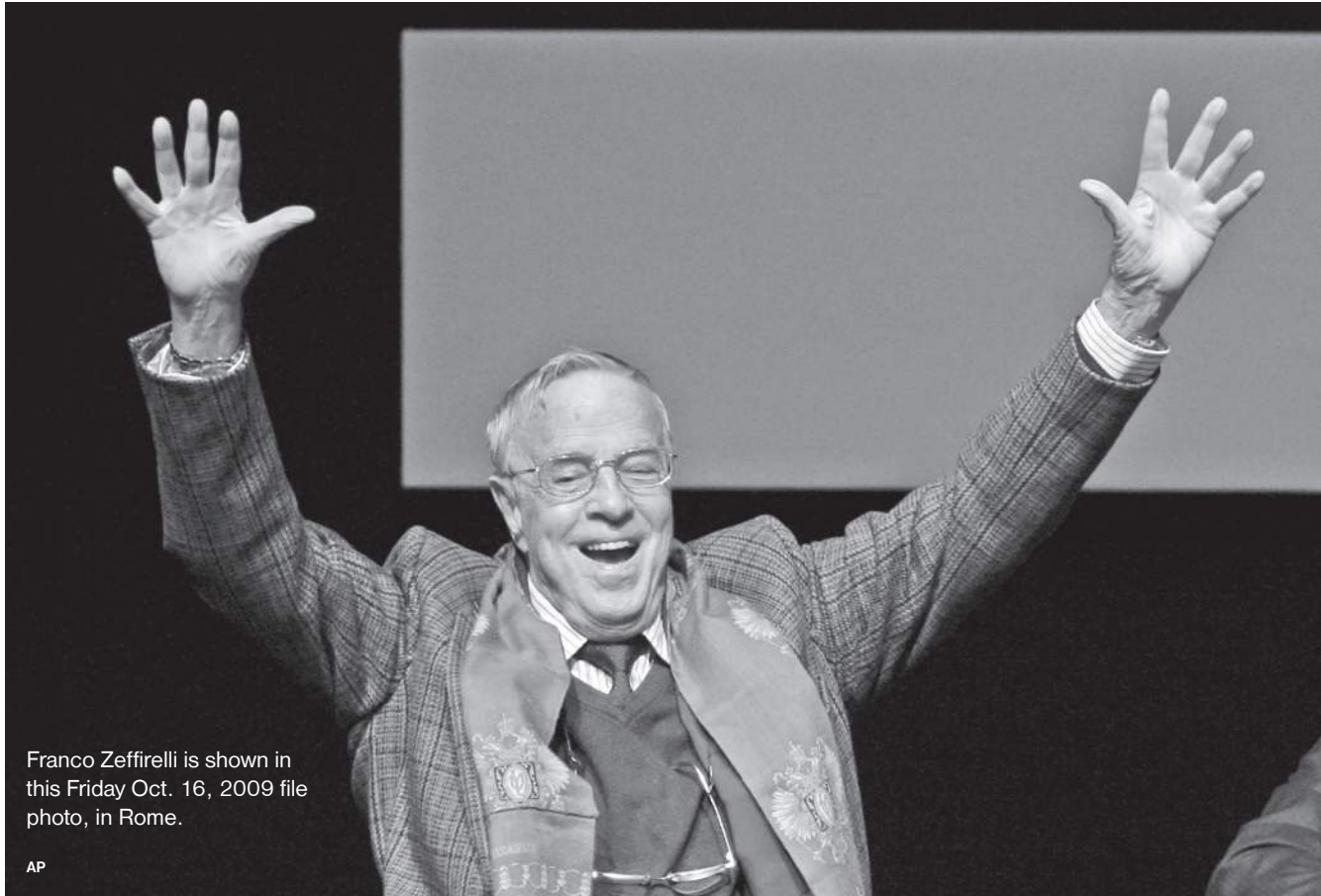
"I am not a film director. I am a director who uses different instruments to express his dreams and his stories—to make people dream," Zeffirelli told The Associated Press in a 2006 interview.

From his out-of-wedlock birth on the outskirts of Florence on Feb. 12, 1923, Zeffirelli rose to be one of Italy's most prolific directors, working with such opera greats as Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and Maria Callas, as well as Hollywood stars including Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Mel Gibson, Cher and Judi Dench.

Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte said he was "profoundly moved by the death of Zeffirelli, who was an Italian ambassador of cinema, art and beauty."

Throughout his career, Zeffirelli took risks—and his audacity paid off at the box office. His screen success in America was a rarity among Italian filmmakers.

He was one of the few Italian directors close to the Vatican, and the church turned to Zeffirelli's theatrical touch for live telecasts of the 1978 papal installation and the 1983 Holy Year opening ceremonies in St. Peter's Basilica. Former Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi also tapped him to direct a few high-profile events.



Franco Zeffirelli is shown in this Friday Oct. 16, 2009 file photo, in Rome.

AP

But Zeffirelli was best known outside Italy for his colorful, softly-focused romantic films. His 1968 "Romeo and Juliet" brought Shakespeare's famous story to a new and appreciative generation, and his 1973 "Brother Sun, Sister Moon," told the life of St. Francis in parables.

"Romeo and Juliet" set box-office records in the United States, though it was made with two unknown actors, Leonard Whiting and Olivia Hussey. The film, which cost \$1.5 million, grossed \$52 million and became one of the most successful Shakespearean movies ever.

A year earlier, he directed Taylor and Burton in Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," leaving his distinctive mark on world cinema.

In the 1970s, Zeffirelli's focus shifted from the romantic to the spiritual. His 1977 made-for-television "Life of Jesus" became an instant classic with its portrayal of a Christ who seemed authentic and relevant. Shown around the world, the film earned more than \$300 million.

Where Zeffirelli worked, controversy was never far away. In 1978, he threatened to leave Italy for good because of harsh attacks against him and his art by Italian leftists, who saw Zeffirelli as an exponent of Hollywood.

On the other hand, piqued by American criticism of his 1981 movie "Endless Love," starring Brooke Shields, Zeffirelli said he might never make another film in the U.S. The movie, as he predicted,

was a box office success.

In his 2006 autobiography, Zeffirelli recounted how his mother attended her husband's funeral pregnant with another man's child. Unable to give the baby either her name or his father's, she tried to name him Zeffirelli, after an aria in Mozart's "Idomeneo." But a typographical error made it Zeffirelli, making him "the only person in the world with Zeffirelli as a name, thanks to my mother's folly."

His mother died of tuberculosis when he was 6, and Zeffirelli went to live with his father's cousin, whom he affectionately called Zia (Aunt) Lide.

Living in Zia Lide's house and getting weekly visits from his father, Zeffirelli developed the passions that would shape his life. The first was for opera, after seeing Wagner's "Walkure" at age 8 or 9 in Florence. The second was a love of English culture and literature, after his father started him on thrice-weekly English lessons.

His experiences with the British expatriate community under fascism, and their staunch disbelief that they would be victimized by Benito Mussolini's regime, were at the heart of the semi-autobiographical 1991 film "Tea with Mussolini."

He remained ever an Anglophile, and was particularly proud when Britain gave him an honorary knighthood in 2004.

As a youth, Zeffirelli served with the partisans during World War II. He later acted

as an interpreter for British troops. Then the lifelong bachelor turned to acting at 20 when he joined an experimental troupe in Florence.

Zeffirelli reportedly said in his autobiography that he considered himself a homosexual instead of using the term gay, a word he detested.

After a short-lived acting career, Zeffirelli worked with Luchino Visconti's theatrical company in Rome, where he showed a flair for dramatic staging techniques in "A Streetcar Named Desire" and "Troilus and Cressida." He later served as assistant director under Italian film masters Michelangelo Antonioni and Vittorio De Sica.

In 1950, he began a long and fruitful association with lyric theater, working as a director, set designer and costumer, and bringing new life to works by his personal favorites: Mozart, Rossini, Donizetti and Verdi. Over the next decade, he staged dozens of operas, romantic melodramas and contemporary works in Italian and other European theaters, eventually earning a reputation as one of the world's best directors of musical theater.

Both La Scala and New York's Metropolitan Opera later hosted Zeffirelli's classic staging of "La Bohème," which was shown on American television in 1982.

His first film effort in 1958, a comedy he wrote called "Campino," had limited success.

Zeffirelli returned to prose theater in 1961 with an innovative interpretation of "Romeo and Juliet" at London's

Old Vic. British critics termed it "revolutionary," and the director used it as the basis of frequent later productions and the 1968 film.

When Zeffirelli decided to do "La Traviata" on film, he had already worked his stage version of the opera into a classic, performed at La Scala with soprano Maria Callas. He had been planning the film since 1950, he said.

"In the last 30 years, I've done everything a lyric theater artist can do," Zeffirelli wrote as the film was released in 1983. "This work is the one that crowns all my hopes and gratifies all my ambitions."

The film, with Teresa Stratas and Plácido Domingo in the lead roles, found near-unanimous critical acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic and received Oscar nominations for costuming, scenography and artistic direction.

Zeffirelli worked on a new staging of La Traviata as his last project, which will open the 2019 Opera Festival on June 21 at the Verona Arena.

"We'll pay him a final tribute with one of his most loved operas," said artistic director Cecilia Gasdia. "He'll be with us."

Zeffirelli often turned his talents toward his native city. In 1983, he wrote a historical portrait of Florence during the 15th and 16th centuries. During the disastrous 1966 Florence floods, Zeffirelli produced a well-received documentary on the damage done to the city and its art.

"I feel more like a Florentine than an Italian," Zeffirelli once said. "A citizen of a Flor-

ence that was once the capital of Western civilization."

Accused by some of heavy-handedness in his staging techniques, Zeffirelli fought frequent verbal battles with others in Italian theater.

"Zeffirelli doesn't realize that an empty stage can be more dramatic than a stage full of junk," Carmelo Bene, an avant-garde Italian director and actor, once said.

It was a criticism that some reserved for his lavish production of "Aida" to open La Scala's 2006-7 season—his first return to the Milan opera house in a dozen years and the fifth "Aida" of his career. The production was a popular success, but may be remembered more for the turbulent exit of the lead tenor, Roberto Alagna, after being booed.

"I'm 83 and I've really been working like mad since I was a kid. I've done everything, but I never really feel that I have said everything I have to say," Zeffirelli told The Associated Press shortly before the opening of "Aida."

Zeffirelli had trouble with his balance after contracting an infection during hip surgery in 1999, but didn't let that slow him down.

"I always have to cling on this or that to walk ... but the mind is absolutely intact," he said in the AP interview.

Rapper T.I. and Atlanta church work to end mass imprisonment

ATLANTA (AP)—Music artist T.I. is lending his voice to a project involving the late Martin Luther King Jr.'s home church in Atlanta.

Ebenezer Baptist Church plans a three-day conference at the historic church in Atlanta to address mass incarcerations.

The Rev. Raphael Warnock said in a statement that the End Mass Incarceration Conference will run Monday through Wednesday at the church.

Warnock said goals of the conference include helping communities to fight the rise of the prison industrial complex in the United States and systems that unfairly imprison people of color.

Ebenezer said T.I. will be participating in helping to bail out of jail dozens of poor and working-class citizens in the Atlanta area.

Franchise fatigue continues with ‘Men in Black’ and ‘Shaft’

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Brand familiarity isn’t everything when it comes to attracting audiences to the multiplex, and Hollywood is learning that lesson the hard way this summer with a slew of underperforming sequels and reboots. That so-called franchise fatigue came to a head this weekend with the releases of “Men in Black: International” and “Shaft.”

The writing may have been on the wall after neither an X-Men movie (“Dark Phoenix”) nor a Godzilla movie (“Godzilla: King of the Monsters”) could get moviegoers enthusiastic enough to turn out. But this weekend, down over 50% from last year, is the worst yet.

“This was a rough weekend,” said Comscore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian. “We’ve had some big franchises that are not resonating with audiences or critics.”

And there’s a common denominator between all the recent disappointments: Poor reviews. All four have been certified “rotten” on Rotten Tomatoes.

“Men in Black: International” took the No. 1 spot in North

America, but it’s a dubious distinction for the Tessa Thompson and Chris Hemsworth-led reboot which isn’t exactly the franchise-revitalizer it hoped to be. Sony Pictures on Sunday estimates the F. Gary Gray-directed film earned only \$28.5 million over the weekend against a reported \$110 million production budget. The three previous “Men in Black” films all opened to over \$50 million not accounting for inflation.

However, international audiences are helping the bottom line with the film earning \$73.7 million from 36 markets, bringing its global total to \$102.2 million.

The weekend’s other big new release, “Shaft,” which introduces another generation to the franchise, couldn’t even manage to carve out a place in the top five, which instead was populated mostly by holdovers.

“The Secret Life of Pets 2” got the No. 2 spot in its second weekend with \$23.8 million. Disney’s “Aladdin,” now in weekend four, took third with \$16.7 million. “Dark Phoenix” placed fourth with \$9 million and “Rocketman” coasted to fifth with \$8.8 million.

“Shaft,” a Warner Bros. release, placed sixth on the charts, with a disappointing \$8.3 million.

Directed by Tim Story, “Shaft” features Samuel L. Jackson reprising his role from

almost 20 years ago and Jessie T. Usher as his son. It was made for around \$30 million.

Although critics did not praise the film, audiences who turned out (54% of whom were women) were more enthusiastic, giving the film an A CinemaScore.

Even some originals had a tough time this weekend. Amazon Studios expanded its Mindy Kaling and Emma Thompson comedy “Late Night,” which it acquired the North American rights to for a Sundance record of \$13 million, to 2,220 theaters where it earned \$5.1 million.

“The real bright spots have been the smaller indies,” Dergarabedian said. “We think of summer as blockbuster season, but it’s turned into indie



AP Actor Chris Hemsworth, left, and wife, Elsa Pataky, attend the world premiere of “Men in Black: International,” at the AMC Loews Lincoln Square, Tuesday, June 11, 2019, in New York.

Meghan and Harry release Father’s Day photo of baby Archie

LONDON (AP)—Prince Harry and Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex have released a photograph of their 6-week-old son Archie for Father’s Day.

The sepia-toned photo, posted Sunday on the royal couple’s Instagram feed, shows the baby cradled in Harry’s arms and clutching his father’s finger.

The post is captioned: “Happy Father’s Day! And wishing a very special first

Father’s Day to The Duke of Sussex.”

The couple posted a picture of the baby’s feet when Mother’s Day was celebrated in the United States last month to mark Meghan’s first as a mom.

The baby hadn’t yet been born when the U.K. had its Mother’s Day this year.

Archie Harrison Mountbatten-Windsor was born on May 6 and is seventh in line to the British throne.

Tiffany Haddish cancels Atlanta show over abortion law

ATLANTA (AP)—Actress and comedian Tiffany Haddish has canceled her upcoming Atlanta performance because of Georgia’s new restrictive abortion law.

News outlets report that the “Girls Trip” star sent a statement to ticketholders Saturday, saying she cannot “in good faith” perform in Georgia unless it withdraws the so-called heartbeat bill. Haddish had been scheduled to perform June 22 at the

Fox Theatre.

The new law would ban abortion once a fetal heartbeat is detected, which can be as early as six weeks, before many women know they are pregnant. Unless it’s blocked in court, it’s set to go into effect in 2020. The ACLU has already said the group will mount a legal challenge.

Major Hollywood studios have said they may reevaluate filming in Georgia if the law goes into effect.

1. “Men in Black: International,” \$28.5 million (\$73.7 million international).	6. “Shaft,” \$8.3 million.	Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Comscore:	5. “My Best Summer (Zui Hao De Wo Men),” \$8.7 million.
2. “The Secret Life of Pets 2,” \$23.8 million	7. “Godzilla: King of the Monsters,” \$8.1 million (\$14.1 million international).		6. “The Secret Life of Pets 2” and “Rocketman,” \$8.5 million.
3. “Aladdin,” \$16.7 million (\$47.5 million international).	8. “John Wick: Chapter 3—Parabellum,” \$6.1 million (\$6.2 million international).	1. “Men in Black: International,” \$73.7 million.	7. “Parasite,” \$7.8 million.
4. “Dark Phoenix,” \$9 million (\$24.2 million international).	9. “Late Night,” \$5.1 million (\$255,000 international).	2. “Aladdin,” \$47.5 million.	8. “John Wick: Chapter 3—Parabellum,” \$6.2 million.
5. “Rocketman,” \$8.8 million (\$8.5 million international).	10. “Ma,” \$3.6 million (\$2.3 million international).	3. “Dark Phoenix,” \$24.2 million.	9. “A City Called Macau,” \$4.1 million.
		4. “Godzilla: King of the Monsters,” \$14.1 million.	10. “Chasing the Dragon 2: Wild Wild Bunch,” \$3.4 million.

Single man falls off friend’s radar after they get married

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 26-year-old single man. Most of my good friends are getting married, and when they do, they stop speaking to me. I have a hard time not resenting them for it. It makes me feel my company was a placeholder until they got married, and I’m not worth keeping around now that they have what they really want. It makes me feel like a second-class citizen.

Is this typical behavior or am I right to feel slighted? If you have any advice for someone in my situation, I’d appreciate it.

PLACEHOLDER IN THE EAST

DEAR PLACEHOLDER: You may be taking this too personally. When people marry, their interests and their social schedules change. They tend to socialize with other newlyweds, which may be why you see less of them.

There could be many reasons why you are no longer included—among them that they don’t want you to feel like the odd man out. Make sure they know that won’t be the case, you still value their friendship and you would love to get together with them. That may prompt them to include you more often. Also, make a point of staying active and putting yourself in social situations where you can meet some new single friends.

DEAR ABBY: I have had a chronic illness for 15 years. It

has a myriad of symptoms that are very painful. While some of them are fleeting, others last for weeks.

My family is angry with me because they say I am not dependable. It seems like every conversation requires some sort of explanation or apology. My husband is supportive, so our household is calm and reassuring. He says I should stop communicating with these relatives because the negativity is depressing and demoralizing. How can I get them to accept me as I am?

ANONYMOUS IN AMERICA

DEAR ANONYMOUS: You can’t force people who have no empathy to have it. For whatever reason, it isn’t in their DNA. You can, however, take care of YOURSELF. If seeing or talking with your relatives leaves you feeling worse, it would make sense to follow your husband’s advice.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a woman with a situation I’ve never seen addressed in your column. Most adult identical twins do not go out of their way to look 100% alike. They’ll style their hair differently, groom facial hair differently or dress differently.

I attend a church where two middle-aged women appear to have missed that memo. They wear the same hairstyle, the same glasses and nearly identical clothes. This makes me tend to avoid them because I’m embarrassed to admit I have no clue

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

as to which one I’m talking to. Please give me your input.

SEEING DOUBLE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SEEING DOUBLE: Rather than allow the inability to distinguish between the twins cause you to shun them, why not explain your problem? If you do, perhaps they can suggest a way you can identify them as individuals. As you interact with them, you may also notice characteristics that will help you tell who’s who.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



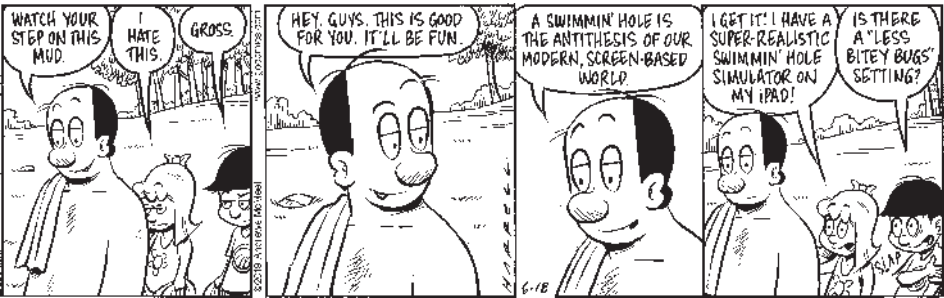
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Sketch

5 Shock partner

8 Verdi heroine

12 Ms. McEntire

13 Scale note

14 Mosque VIP

15 Shake-speare title starter

16 Centennial State

18 Man's youth

20 San Francisco griddler

21 Newt

22 Take to court

23 Give a leg up

26 Madrid museum

30 Klutz

31 Author Tan

32 Have a bug

33 Swagger

36 Open-mouthed

38 Mornings (Abbr.)

39 A Gabor

40 Painting of a scene

43 Public speakers

47 16th-century Spanish explorer

49 Loafer, for one

50 Scent

51 Nourished

52 Vitriol

53 Marries

54 Mao — tung

55 Egg part

3 With skill

4 Cleanses

5 Fancy neckwear

6 Fireplace fuel

7 Right angle

8 More ventilated

9 One-named super-model

10 Miami — County

11 Latin love

17 "Movin' —" ("The Jeffersons" theme)

19 Frequently

22 Devious

23 Short 'do

24 Galley item

25 Son-gun link

26 Comic Philips

27 Small battery

28 Quick swim

29 Flamenco cheer

31 Billboards

34 Mists

35 Prayer ender

36 "Selma" director

37 Fitzgerald title character

39 Wear down

40 Garbage barge

41 Morse —

42 Yankee nickname

43 Praiseful pieces

44 Wheeling's river

45 Bakery buy

46 Hunt for

48 Sternward

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Blake Shelton, 43; Carol Kane, 67; Isabella Rossellini, 67; Paul McCartney, 77.

Happy Birthday: Take care of unfinished business, updates and matters that can affect you mentally, physically or financially. Adopting a minimalist approach moving forward will ease stress and open doors that will lead to the people, places and things you want in your life. Trust in yourself, your beliefs and your future. Your numbers are 8, 11, 20, 27, 34, 37, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll need vision and ingenuity if you want to overcome someone applying pressure on you to do things you don't want to do. Use experience, and refrain from offering too much personal information to anyone prying into your affairs. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't wait for change to come your way. If you want something, make it happen. Set up a meeting with someone of consequence, or learn whatever you need to know to get what you want. Choose your destiny. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Listen to what others want, but only agree to what fits into your timetable. Walk away from drama and situations that will bring you down. Respect and love who you are. Happiness is the result of doing what's best for you. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A conversation will bring positive results. Don't be afraid to open up about the way you feel and what you want to do. The response you

receive will help you recognize how best to handle someone manipulative or indulgent. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Participation doesn't mean you have to divulge personal information. Being a good listener can help you determine what's best for you without giving others an indication of what you plan to do next. A personal gain should be your intent. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Shoot for the stars. Be open to new possibilities, and you'll come up with a plan that will help you make a move that is cost-efficient as well as beneficial. Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Go about your business without making a fuss. Your aim should be to free up enough time to enjoy doing something with someone you love. A physical change will make you feel good, but only momentarily if you overspend. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Talks will bring about change. Making concise plans will convince others to help you get what you want. Don't rule out paying a surprise visit to someone you feel may be waffling or who may try to disrupt your plans. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a moment to analyze a situation before you take action. Keep your distance from anyone who is being pushy or trying to entice you to get involved in something you shouldn't. Moderation is in your best interest. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Share your thoughts and feelings, and you'll be offered workable options that will keep your plans moving along fluently. A trustworthy situation will encourage future projects as well as a good recommendation from someone notable. Take control and seal a deal. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you need proof, fact-check the information you've been given. Downsize a project or plan if you feel the extent or cost involved has been underestimated. Listen to your gut, and don't overreact. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Get in the game. Trust in what and who you know to help you win. Question anyone bragging or making unrealistic promises. You will gain ground if you are practical and willing to take charge mentally and physically. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are original, adventuresome and demonstrative. You are engaging and colorful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★

6/18

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8 2 6 4 9 7 1 3 5
1 5 3 6 2 8 4 9 7
9 4 7 5 3 1 2 8 6
3 1 4 7 6 5 9 2 8
5 8 2 1 4 9 6 7 3
7 6 9 3 8 2 5 4 1
6 9 1 8 7 4 3 5 2
2 7 5 9 1 3 8 6 4
4 3 8 2 5 6 7 1 9

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DEVOTEES Solution: 7 letters

ETSERETNINVESTLT
TNESNAFFREGAEIF
AETRPROMOTEMVPI
CRHH①②③④VLIEIEG
OEOEUMPGATLOVTU
VHNSLSDFYNONRR
DDTONPIARELAWEE
AAYRTOEAEPTOSMC
GAPRMORPRSSOPUIH
LTROPPOSITESLNA
ORADYPSSHCHIBEV
ROIIEPHSUTCUCPOP
YFSLPAERIPSNIL
IFETASTEADOREVO
TEACHEDDEFENDEEN

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Adherent, Admire, Adore, Advocate, Assistant, Champion, Defend, Eager, Effort, Enthusiastic, Faith, Fans, Favor, Figure, Follow, Friend, Glory, Happy, Helper, Idol, Inspire, Interest, Invest, Involve, Lively, Love, Loyal, Model, Music, Phase, Pioneer, Praise, Promote, Public, Purpose, Respect, Sponsor, Sport, Support, Taste, Teach, Time, Trust Yesterday's Answer: Parsnip

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 38, 40, and 42 through 56, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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- Job Qualifications:**
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 - Minimum of 3 years of experience on in this field.
 - Work-related skills and knowledge.
 - Able to lift at least 45 lbs.
 - Able to work on an early morning shift.

Interested Applicants may submit application at the following:
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PO Box 505656, Saipan MP 96950 I (670)235-3027 I kalayaan.spn@gmail.com
Contact Person: Airen P. Lerio

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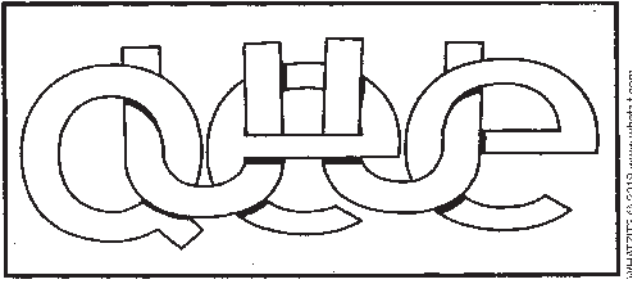
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Report: Lakers may land Kyrie after Davis trade



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Now that the Los Angeles Lakers landed Anthony Davis as a second star to pair with LeBron James, the next big question emerges: Who will be their third star?

After trading just about every young player on their roster this side of Kyle Kuzma, the Lakers are in position to add another max player. The order of operations for signing any max player may be tough because of the timing of the Davis trade, but as favorites to win the title next season, the Lakers will be a hot destination.

One of the players that continually gets brought up is Kyrie Irving.

Although the star point guard went through a public divorce with James when they were on the Cleveland Cavaliers two years ago, Irving has grown closer to James over time. In January he called to apologize to James for their fallout, and now a reunion could be on the horizon.

According to a report from The Athletic's Sam Amick, James was confident that Irving was considering the Lakers even before his team pulled off its biggest trade in a decade. Having AD on board only increases the intrigue, although the deal may require Irving to take a slight pay cut.

Even if we assume that Davis waives his \$4.7 million trade kicker to help the team



AP
Boston Celtics guard Kyrie Irving (11) is trapped by New Orleans Pelicans guard Rajon Rondo (9) and forward Anthony Davis during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Boston, Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018.

add another star—who doesn't love free money?—the Lakers will only have cleared \$32.5 million. That's a bit less than the \$139 million over four years most teams can offer him and far less than the \$190 million over five years the Boston Celtics can dangle. And that's even before considering California's nation-high income tax.

Still, the fact that Irving has shown a willingness to consider other teams beyond the Celtics shows money isn't the only factor for him. Multiple sources tell The Athletic's David Aldridge that he has long wanted to play alongside Davis, whether in Boston, New York or L.A. Now would be his opportunity, similarly to how James, Dwyane Wade

and Chris Bosh took a slight pay cut to play for the Miami Heat nearly a decade ago.

But even if Irving opts to sign elsewhere, the Lakers should have other strong options. Kemba Walker has become a bona fide star—if not Irving-lite—and the Lakers have been tied to every star from Kawhi Leonard to Jimmy Butler.

Celtics refuse to deal Tatum for AD

It's a joyous day for the Los Angeles Lakers after the team finally acquired Anthony Davis. That means it's a rough time for the Boston Celtics.

The Celtics have officially missed out on Davis, who could have been one of the team's best ways to chart a new path forward after a supremely disappointing season. The team had been reported days ago to be in talks with the New Orleans Pelicans.

In the end, the team's unwillingness to add Jayson Tatum to any trade offer cost them a shot at the Pelicans superstar, according to The New York Times' Marc Stein.

Even if the team needed Davis, it's unsurprising the Celtics refused to give up Tatum given the headwinds they faced.

Davis' agent Rich Paul did his best to incinerate Davis' trade value in Boston by declaring Davis would be there for only a year if the Celtics traded for him. That tactic was apparently effective, as it was reported Thursday that the team was hesitant to make a competitive offer for Davis.

That's understandable for the Celtics, as trading away Tatum plus, say, Jaylen Brown and some picks for just one year of any player would have left the team in a dark position next summer.

Without Davis coming to town, Tatum is suddenly the most likely player to be Boston's No. 1 option on offense in the 2019-20 season.

Randle declines \$9M option

The New Orleans Pelicans might suddenly have the brightest future of any team in basketball between winning the Zion Williamson lottery and the haul they received in Davis trade, but one of their best players might not stick around to see it.

Pelicans big man Julius Randle will decline his \$9 million player option and enter unrestricted free agency this offseason.

Given how much Randle produced last season, giving up \$9 million shouldn't be a surprise. The Kentucky product posted a career high in scoring with 21.4 points per game with a 55.5 effective field goal percentage.

Renounced by the Lakers last offseason as the team geared up to land LeBron James, Randle excelled for a team in great need of a frontcourt presence with Davis missing a good chunk of time. He figures to exceed the \$9 million promised to him, though it's worth wondering where that will come from.

Staying with the Pelicans could be an attractive prospect for the 24-year-old Randle, given that the team will still need a solid big man to pair next to Williamson.

After years of middling performance despite having Davis, the Pelicans now have the No. 1 and 4 picks in the draft, an underrated star point guard in Jrue Holiday and a solid group of young players with Lonzo Ball, Brandon Ingram and Josh Hart, as well as a truckload of Lakers picks going forward.

Nurse, Raptors player discuss finals, draft

TORONTO—After months of the most crucial non-stop practices and games of his career, Toronto Raptors point guard Fred VanVleet said he's on a "pretty big high right now."

Since the buzzer went off last week at the end of the Raptors' victorious Game 6 NBA championship game, he said it's felt like one—very long—day.

VanVleet, as well as head coach Nick Nurse and other top Raptors players, spoke to media at the Raptors' training facility for the first time since returning to Toronto after winning the NBA title.

"To reach the ultimate goal is hard to put into words, you just try to enjoy the moment," VanVleet said.

But that's easier said than done, he added.

"It's weird because we're always looking to what's next," he said.

"What do we do now?"

Relax and party, he says. And then get back to work.

After one of the biggest wins of his career, Nurse said he's also trying to process the

entire experience while planning for what's to come.

"It's hard to explain it, to be honest with you," he said. "Super happy for the team and the guys."

After spending so much time caught up in the thrall of the games, Nurse says it's time to gear up for the upcoming 2019 NBA draft, which is now just days away.

"My thought is always stay hungry," he said. "Get the guys we want back."

And it's no surprise Nurse was asked the question on many people's minds: Will Kawhi Leonard stay with the Toronto Raptors?

Although he didn't have a firm answer, he said the Raptors "can give him a good deal."

"I know he's got to make a decision here really soon."

No matter what Leonard decides, the team seems to agree that they learned a lot from him as a player.

"If there's one thing that I've learned from Kawhi is just how he's always the same," said forward Pascal Siakam.

Between scoring from any

point on the court and guarding any player, "he can do everything," Siakam added.

With just three years experience in the game, Siakam said this season taught him things that will stay with him for his whole life.

Between wins, losses, media headlines, fans and critics, he said it can be hard to be consistent.

"Just feeling like you're the best in the world and then the next day feeling like you're the worst," he said. "But if you go out there every day and put every single thing you have into the game, it's going to pay off."

Centre player Marc Gasol also spoke of some of the ups and downs of the championship games—such as Game 1 against Orlando Magic and Game 2 against the Milwaukee Bucks—but said he was impressed by how the team handled the roller coaster together.

"When we're challenged, I just liked how we reacted as team," he said.

Now that it's all over, he said he's itching to get back

on the court and be challenged once again.

"As a competitive guy, that's all you wish for, to keep competing."

Celebration parade set

Most of the team landed at Toronto Pearson International Airport Saturday night. The late hour didn't stop throngs of cheering fans from showing up to give some love to the new NBA champs.

Last week, marked the franchise's first ever title in its 24-year history.

From Oakland, Calif., where they secured their win, many players, coaches and staff headed to Las Vegas to party with rapper Drake and his entourage.

The news conference came, as Toronto prepares for a victory parade and rally on Monday.

While Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment hasn't commented on expected turnout, a spokesperson did say the corporation is preparing for "very large crowds" to descend upon the city's waterfront and downtown core.

Woodland shoots 13-under to win first major

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif.—In front of Gary Woodland was a 263-yard shot to the scariest green on any par 5 at Pebble Beach, especially with a U.S. Open on the line. Behind him by one shot on the leaderboard was Brooks Koepka, the most dangerous figure in major championship golf these days.

The safe shot was to layup on the 14th and take his chances with a wedge.

"The idea was to play for the win," Woodland said.

With an extra boost of confidence from his caddie—Brennan Little, who was on the bag for Mike Weir in his Masters victory—Woodland delivered the shot of his life with a 3-wood that narrowly cleared a bunker, settled on the edge of the green and set up a birdie

that gave him the cushion he needed.

The rest was pure theatre—a 90-foot pitch off the 17th green he nearly holed, a 30-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a 2-under 69 and a three-shot victory that denied Koepka's bold bid to match a century-old record with a third straight U.S. Open.

Woodland's pitch across the 17th green over a hump that checked and trickled to tap-in range effectively clinched it, taking its place with other big moments on the 17th green in the U.S. Open such as Jack Nicklaus and his 1-iron off the pin and Tom Watson's chip-in birdie. It even got the attention of Nicklaus.

"Took a lot of guts," Nicklaus said on Twitter.

Woodland had that it abundantly.

Sharapova has 'expectations' for return from 5-month absence

SPAIN—Maria Sharapova said on Sunday that she has "expectations" for herself ahead of her return from a five-month injury absence in Mallorca next week.

The five-time Grand Slam champion has not played since withdrawing from the St. Petersburg event in January to have surgery on a long-standing shoulder injury.

Sharapova has struggled to find top form since coming back from a 15-month doping ban in 2017.

"When you go out in a tournament, anything can happen," the 32-year-old told wtatennis.com. "You want to go out on the court and you want to show the type of tennis you think you can produce. I certainly have expectations for myself... And I enjoy getting better every day."

"The injuries are very frustrating... But then the next day, you start feeling better.

The next day, you get better and you get a little more optimistic. A few months later, even though it's a long process, here you are and you're excited to compete again," she added.

Sharapova will face Slovakia's Viktoria Kuzmova in the first round of the grasscourt Wimbledon warm-up event, and could play three-time Grand Slam title winner Angelique Kerber in round two.

The Russian star beat former world No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki at the Australian Open earlier this year, but has only reached one major quarterfinal since being suspended for taking meldonium.

Sharapova thinks that, due to the injury, she was not enjoying her tennis six months ago.

"I've been through it before, 10 years ago with the shoulder. My shoulder has been troublesome for a majority of my career," she said.

"Before it was about pain management, but in January, I wasn't really enjoying playing because

after every match I would think about what we would do to help my shoulder. I wasn't really thinking about being excited about the way I was playing, even though there were some great matches that I played in the start of the year," she added.

Sharapova has slipped to 86th from 29th in the rankings during her lay-off.

"I took this time in order to come back to my first event and feel like I have a really good chance at it. Being away from the game for a few months is always challenging, because you miss a lot of things, but from a shoulder perspective, I'm giving it a really good chance here. Every match is going to be a really good test," she said.

Meanwhile, Dominic Thiem has pulled out of next week's grasscourt tournament in Halle due to fatigue.

The 25-year-old Austrian was due to play in the Wimbledon warm-up event, but said he had to withdraw due to a "state of exhaustion".

"I would have liked to play in Halle because it's always a wonderful tournament," said Thiem.

The world No. 4 was beaten by Rafael Nadal in the Roland Garros final for the second straight year.



AP
Gary Woodland celebrates with the trophy after winning the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament Sunday, June 16, 2019, in Pebble Beach, Calif.

U.S. Open.

"I was just trying to get it over that hump," Woodland said. "I thought it had a chance to go in, but it's not one I want over."

Woodland played conservatively down the 18th and made one last birdie that only mattered in the record book. He was aware that Tiger Woods had a 12-under 272 during his historic rout at Pebble Beach in 2000, and he topped him.

That birdie put him at 13-under 271 and earned him \$2.25 million, the richest pay-off in golf.

The difference was Woods won by 15 shots and was the only player under par. With a marine layer blocking the sunshine, and no significant wind at Pebble Beach all week, 31 players finished under par.

Koepka started four shots behind in his bid to join Willie Anderson as the only players to go back-to-back-to-back in the toughest test in golf. He made up ground quickly with four birdies in five holes.

"I felt like, 'We've got a ball game now,'" Koepka said.

He failed to get up-and-down from a bunker for birdie on the par-5 sixth, and missed a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-3 seventh. Still, he stayed within range, just like he wanted, knowing that anything could happen on the back nine of a U.S. Open.

Something wonderful happened to Woodland.

"Gary played a hell of a round today," Koepka said. "Props to him to hang in there. To go out in style like that is pretty cool."

Of the four other players who had a shot at three straight U.S. Opens, no one came closer than Koepka. He now has a victory in the PGA Championship and runner-up finishes in the Masters and U.S. Open.

Justin Rose was the only one who caught Woodland all day, with a birdie on the opening hole. Rose bogeyed from the bunker on No. 2 as Woodland birdied, and he never caught up. Rose fell out of the race with three bogeys in a four-hole stretch on the back nine. He shot 74 and shared third with Xander Schauffele (67), Jon Rahm (68) and Chez Reavie (71).

Nick Taylor of Abbotsford, B.C., shot 72 in the final round to finish 2 over.

Woods birdied six of his last 12 holes and was never a factor. He tied for 21st, 11 shots behind.

dance, along with a message from an inspirational friend.

"You got this."

Until Sunday, when he cradled the silver trophy at Pebble Beach, Woodland got more attention from one hole in a pro-am at the Phoenix Open. He was gracious and encouraging to Amy Bockerstette, a 20-year-old with Down Syndrome and sheer optimism. Woodland invited her to hit a shot on the par-3 16th (into a bunker). He wanted to blast it out of the sand but she said, "I got this." She hit it out to 8 feet and made the putt. The PGA Tour-produced video has more than 20 million views.

"I told myself that a million times today," Woodland said. "I've got this."

Koepka didn't make it easy, keeping the pressure on Woodland until the very end.

Both represent the modern athlete in golf. Both are unflappable.

Needing three putts to win, Woodland finished in style. He raised both arms in the air to salute the crowd, turned toward the Pacific and slammed

down his fist.

"I never let myself get ahead," Woodland said. "Once that went in, it all came out of me. It's special to finish it off here at Pebble Beach."

Koepka had to settle for a footnote in history. He closed with a 68, making him the first player with all four rounds in the 60s at a U.S. Open without winning.

"It was awesome to come this close to going three in a row. It's incredible," Koepka said. "I didn't really think about it until I was done on 18 and realized how close I actually was to not making history, but tying it, I guess you could say. Just wasn't meant to be this week."

Distance was no problem for Woodland on the 14th hole. It was the potential outcome.

"Left is not good, right is out-of-bounds, long is not ideal and the bunker speaks for itself," Woodland said. "So to execute that shot under the pressure, under the situation,

that shot gave me the confidence. I felt better after hitting that shot on the golf course today than I had in a long, long time."

He believes it allowed him to hit one just as good on the 17th.



Woodland dropped the 5-iron from his hands when it sailed well to the right of the green with the pin 90 feet away over a hump.

Up ahead on the par-5 18th, Koepka drilled a 3-iron just over the back of the green, leaving him a 50-foot chip for eagle to tie, with a birdie likely to do the trick considering what Woodland faced on the 17th. Koepka chipped to 10 feet and narrowly missed the birdie putt.

Woodland, unable to hit putter and get anywhere near the hole, opted to pitch it with a 64-degree wedge. He clipped it perfectly just over the hump, and it checked about 12 feet from the hole and trickled by the pin to secure par, and effectively the

Padres, Rockies set record 92 runs in series



DENVER
(AP)—The

Padres and Rockies set a modern-era record by combining for 92 runs in a four-game series, with San Diego pitcher Matt Strahm drawing a pinch-hit, bases-loaded walk in the ninth inning to rally past Colorado, 14-13, Sunday in Denver.

It was just another wacky day at Coors Field, especially in this four-game split series where the Rockies outscored the Padres 48-44, while the teams combined for 131 hits. Colorado's Charlie Blackmon became the first player since at least 1900 with 15 hits in a four-game series, according to STATS. Adding to the zaniness: the finale was delayed once to clean up a big puddle in foul territory despite sunny skies, and again later because of weather.

Trailing 13-10 in the ninth, Wil Myers had an RBI single and Greg Garcia promptly tied it with a two-out, two-run triple off closer Wade Davis. The Rockies brought in starter Jon Gray, who intentionally walked two batters to face Strahm. Gray fell behind 3-1 before throwing a strike. Taking all the way, Strahm watched a fastball narrowly miss for ball four.

Gerardo Reyes earned the win by striking out three in the eighth. Kirby Yates threw a perfect ninth for his 24th save.

Royals 8, Twins 6

In Minneapolis, Martin Maldonado celebrated Father's Day by wearing a blue necktie on his chest protector and had three hits to lift Kansas City over Minnesota.

Maldonado had several names scribbled on the tie, along with "Happy Father's Day." Pittsburgh Pirates backstop Elias Diaz wore the same tie in a game against Atlanta, which appeared to be provided by equipment manufacturer All-Star.

Jorge Lopez (1-6) pitched 2 1/3 innings in relief for the win.

Martin Perez (7-3) surrendered five runs—four earned—in 6 2/3 innings for Minnesota.

Dodgers 3, Cubs 2

In Los Angeles, Russell Martin singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning off Steve Cishek, Alex Verdugo made a game-saving catch for the final out and the Dodgers rallied to beat the Cubs.

Cody Bellinger hit his 23rd homer in front of his parents on Father's Day.

Kenley Jansen earned his 21st save the hard way. He gave up a leadoff single to Albert Almora Jr. and walked Jason Heyward to put the ty-



ing and go-ahead runs on base. Pinch-hitter Kyle Schwarber grounded out, moving Almora to third and Heyward to second. Pinch-hitter Victor Caratini bounced a short grounder to the right side, and Jansen fielded and fired home to get Almora at the plate for the second out.

With Heyward at third, Javier Baez flied out to center and Verdugo made a running catch to preserve the win, diving onto his stomach shortly after the ball fell into his glove.

Red Sox 8, Orioles 6, 10 innings

In Baltimore, Rafael Devers led off the 10th inning with a home run after Marco Hernandez tied it with a solo shot in ninth, and the Red Sox beat the Orioles.

After winning the first two games of the series in blow-out fashion, the Red Sox used some late heroics to complete the sweep and extend their winning streak to five.

Mychal Givens (0-4) served up a 1-0 pitch that Devers slammed far over the center-field wall. Mookie Betts and Christian Vazquez added two-out, two-run singles off David Hess.

Brandon Workman (5-1) worked the ninth for the Red Sox. Boston's eighth pitcher, Josh Smith, gave up a two-run homer to Stevie Wilkerson and a bases-empty drive to Trey Mancini in the 10th.

Indians 8, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Trevor Bauer pitched his first shutout as a pro, ending the longest winless streak of his career as the Indians beat the Tigers.

Bauer (5-6) gave up four hits, struck out eight and walked none. This was his 224th start since being drafted out of UCLA, including 166 in the majors.

Rookie Oscar Mercado drove in four runs and Jason Kipnis homered and drove in three. The Indians are 18-7 against Detroit since the beginning of last season and outscored them 25-6 in this set at Comerica Park.

Rays 6, Angels 5

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Yandy Diaz hit an RBI single during Tampa Bay's two-run eighth inning, and the Rays held off Los Angeles' late rally to beat the Angels.

Mike Trout hit a two-run homer off Diego Castillo in the ninth to make it a one-run game. After Shohei Ohtani singled and went to second on Albert Pujols' grounder, Castillo completed his seventh save by striking Kole Calhoun.

Tommy Pham put the Rays ahead 4-3 with a solo shot against Griffin Canning (2-3) in the fifth.

Cardinals 4, Mets 3

In New York, Paul DeJong tagged the Mets again, hitting a tiebreaking home run in the

eighth inning that sent the Cardinals past the Mets.

The Cardinals won despite getting outhit 10-3. They took three of four in the series, and DeJong homered in each victory.

DeJong is 30 for 83 (.361) with nine homers and 10 doubles against the Mets overall. He connected off Chris Flexen (0-3) for a solo drive.

Paul Goldschmidt hit a prodigious home run off the facade of the second deck and scored twice for St. Louis.

Braves 15, Phillies 1

In Atlanta, Josh Donaldson homered for the third straight game, Mike Foltyniewicz allowed only one run in six innings and the Braves beat the Phillies.

The Braves, who had their eight-game winning streak snapped with a 6-5 loss to the Phillies on Saturday night, won two of three in the series. Atlanta leads Philadelphia by 2 1/2 games in the NL East.

Mike Foltyniewicz (2-5) walked five batters but allowed only four hits with six strikeouts.

Vince Velasquez (2-4) lasted just 2 1/3 innings in his first start since May 6.

Nationals 15, Diamondbacks 5

In Washington, Matt Adams homered twice and drove in a career-high seven runs, Anibal Sanchez got his 100th career victory, and the Nationals beat

the Diamondbacks.

Adams, Anthony Rendon and Kurt Suzuki homered off Arizona reliever Zack Godley, and Adams added a grand slam against Stefan Crichton in the eighth. Adams has nine career multihomer games.

Brewers 5, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Eric Thames and Jesus Aguilar homered to help Milwaukee avoid a sweep with a victory over the Giants.

Christian Yelich had two doubles, extending his season-high hitting streak to 13 games. The reigning NL MVP is batting .472 (25 for 53) with five homers over that stretch.

Matt Albers (3-2) pitched the fifth for the win. Josh Hader pitched a perfect two final innings, striking out three, to get his 17th save in 18 chances.

Reds 11, Rangers 3

In Cincinnati, Jesse Winker homered and set career highs with four hits and five RBIs, Yasiel Puig added a two-run shot, and the Reds beat the Rangers to avoid a three-game sweep.

Sonny Gray (3-5) worked around Shin-Soo Choo's solo home run and Hunter Pence's two-run shot to finish five innings in a game that was delayed at the start by 1 hour, 34 minutes.

Ariel Jurado (4-3), who won each of his previous three starts, lasted three batters into the fourth inning.

San Diego Padres starting pitcher Cal Quantrill, right, fields the throw from first baseman Eric Hosmer to put out Colorado Rockies' Raimel Tapia at first base and end the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, June 16, 2019, in Denver.

Yankees 10, White Sox 3

In Chicago, James Paxton pitched six effective innings, Brett Gardner and Austin Romine each had four RBIs and the Yankees cruised past the White Sox.

Gardner and Romine, the backup catcher behind Gary Sanchez, each drove in two runs with singles in New York's five-run third.

Paxton (4-3) allowed eight hits and two runs for his first win since April 26.

Chicago's Odrisamer Despaigne (0-2) allowed seven runs.

Pirates 5, Marlins 4

In Miami, Josh Bell's go-ahead double in the seventh helped lead the Pirates over the Marlins.

The Pirates rallied from a 4-2 deficit on Corey Dickerson's pinch-hit RBI double off Miami starter Sandy Alcantara in the sixth and took the lead in the seventh against reliever Nick Anderson (2-3) on Melky Cabrera's game-tying triple and Bell's double that scored Cabrera.

Richard Rodriguez (1-3) pitched a scoreless sixth and Austin Dean closed the game for this 16th save.

Blue Jays 12, Astros 0

In Houston, Trent Thornton shut down his former team into the seventh inning, Teoscar Hernandez hit two of Toronto's five home runs and the Blue Jays hammered the Astros.

Freddy Galvis and Hernandez each hit three-run homers in a seven-run sixth inning. Hernandez added a solo drive in the ninth off Tyler White, who started the game at first base.

Thornton (2-5) scattered six singles, struck out seven and walked three in 6 2/3 innings.

Brad Peacock (6-4) went five innings and allowed four runs for the second straight start.

Mariners 6, Athletics 3

In Oakland, California, Kyle Seager hit a two-run double soon after right fielder Mark Canha appeared to lose a flyball in the sun, and the Mariners rallied in the eighth inning to beat the Athletics.

Mallex Smith homered for the second time in three games for the last-place Mariners, a day after they traded AL home run leader Edwin Encarnacion to the New York Yankees.

Record-setting Lloyd lifts US over Chile

FRANCE—The United States kept rolling at the 2019 Women's World Cup on Sunday, following up a 13-0 demolition of Thailand with another win and more broken records.

This time Carli Lloyd was the history-maker, bagging two first-half goals in a 3-0 victory over Chile—and propelling the U.S. to the knockout rounds.

Lloyd became the first player to score in six consecutive World Cup appearances, and the oldest—at 36 years and 11 months—to nab multiple goals in a Women's World Cup game.

Lloyd's dominant display came on a day the U.S. rested six starters. The comfort with which it eased to three points anyway highlighted its absurd depth, and reinforced its status as tournament favorite.

Lloyd scored in every knockout-round match at the

2015 World Cup as a midfielder. Her famous hat trick in the final led the U.S. to the top of the women's soccer world.

Four years later, she came off the bench to extend her streak against Thailand. On Sunday, she started up front and broke the deadlock on 11 minutes.

Lloyd appeared to mock criticism of the team's celebrations against Thailand with a golf clap after her opener.

Later in the half, after Julie Ertz put the U.S. up 2-0 with a trademark header, Lloyd posterized a Chilean defender to nod home her second, and the team's third.

She bombarded the Chilean goal all half. She hit the post three minutes in. She had other efforts saved by Chilean keeper Christiane Endler, who was the only reason 3-0 wasn't 6-0.

After being drawn back into a midfield role for the second



United States' Carli Lloyd, left, celebrates with teammates after scoring the opening goal during the Women's World Cup Group F soccer match between United States and Chile at Parc des Princes in Paris, France, Sunday, June 16, 2019. AP

BETTER

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the coaches, while SLLB president Mike Borja, umpire Manny Tenorio, and SLLB secretary Piding Tenorio complete the CNMI delegation to the 2019 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament. The regionals will be held anew at the Hwaseong Dream Park in Seoul from June 23 to 30.

"We will use the remaining days of our practice for hitting and pitching drills. In Korea, there are many taller pitchers, so we have adults here pitching to test our boys. It's the same thing with our pitching drills. Our players throw the ball to adults because we expect a lot of big hitters in the tournament," the manager added.

KANOA

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Kanoa hung on to the lead in the next 24 minutes and change before Katrina Costales equalized in the 35th minute. The game-tying goal was set up off Mae Ito's pass to Costales, who had only Sharmaine Francisco defending her, as she dribbled a bit before launching a long shot from the left part of the penalty arc. Kanoa goalkeeper Chevy Kate Alipio jumped to catch the ball, but the shot was way too high for her and then went down right into the goal, allowing Shirley's to knot the count.

However, the deadlock was short-lived, as Pagarao attacked anew and scored the go-ahead in the 44th minute. She received a pass from Jenny Lee, dribbled to her left, as expected, and with only Lilian Podziewski bodying her up, Pagarao quickly went for the cross from around 15 yards to

The CNMI won only one game last year (against Indonesia, 8-3) and lost to China, Guam, and eventual champion South Korea.

Camacho said they don't know yet who will be their opponents in this year's World Series qualifier, but he expects that the host will still be the team to beat in the competition. It is also likely that China, Guam, Indonesia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and New Zealand will send teams to Korea.

"All I know is that there will be two pools in the elimination round and whichever group we landed, we just have to go all out and play our game," the manager added.

Korea won last year's tournament after dominating Chinese-Taipei in the finals, 6-1.

help her team regain the driver's seat.

Kanoa kept the shaky lead at the break despite Shirley's repeated attempts to tie the match anew. Joyce then gave Kanoa the insurance in the 65th minute after stealing possession from Shirley's. Joyce anticipated a pass and then dribbled her way out of three Shirley's defenders before going for a straight shot just after she entered the penalty area where she later collided with another defender and fell. Joyce then stood up unharmed and celebrated with her teammates.

A bigger celebration came later after the game, as Kanoa was awarded the championship trophy. Shirley's and Matansa Football Club also received the runner-up and third place trophies, respectively, while Costales was handed the Golden Boot award for scoring 11 goals this season.

half, Lloyd remained one of the most influential players on the field. And she could have had a hat trick, but dragged a late penalty wide of the post.

Still, her performance and the team's showcased the talent up and down this US-WNT roster.

Ellis tweaks lineup

The U.S. demolished Thailand with a mostly first-choice starting 11. In a comfortable position atop the group, with a place in the knockout rounds all but clinched, U.S. coach Jill Ellis made seven changes to her lineup for the Chile match.

Lloyd, Christen Press, Mal Pugh, Morgan Brian, Ali Krieger, Tierna Davidson and

Becky Sauerbrunn came in. Alex Morgan, Megan Rapinoe, Tobin Heath, Rose Lavelle, Sam Mewis, Kelley O'Hara and Crystal Dunn dropped to the bench.

The changes worked as planned. Lloyd kept rolling. The result was never in doubt. Everybody is happy. With Jessica McDonald, Allie Long and Emily Sonnett entering as second-half subs, all American outfield players have now gotten game time. The ones who'll

be counted on in the knockout rounds are well-rested.

Ellis and the U.S. also piloted a few tactical wrinkles. Krieger and Davidson sometimes played as "inverted" fullbacks, coming inside to help the U.S. circulate possession while central midfielders provided width.

The Americans pinned Chile in its defensive third and thoroughly controlled the match, even if they only put three past Endler. Their first two games in France couldn't

have gone much better.

If there was one worrying moment, it was a Chile free kick midway through the first half. It will be forgotten thanks to an offside flag. But Alyssa Naeher, long considered one of the USWNT's few potential weaknesses, flapped at the ball as she rushed off her line, an offside Chilean attacker bearing down on her.

That and Lindsey Horan's yellow card—which means a second in any of the next three games would earn her a suspension—were just about the only negatives for the U.S.

\$3M

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Hoose also clarified that government-benefit facilities can also be owned by a private organization.

"Let us say that for example the Oleai Sports Complex was owned by some [non-governmental organization], but it is open to absolutely everyone who is on the island. That is for the government benefit," he said.

Besides the sports complex, FEMA will also fund the repair of the Northern Marianas College and the rebuilding of Hopwood Middle School and a few other government establishments.

"These are all significant chunks of money that would get the public facilities back up to operation," Hoose said.



The Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield is seen here in ruins after sustaining damage from Super Typhoon Yutu last year. JON PEREZ



Report: Lakers may
land Kyrie after
Davis trade

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kanoa rules Dove women's league



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kanoa Football Club's Paulyn Joyce, seen here kicking the ball during their semis game against Matansa Football Club, scored in their 3-1 title win over Shirley's Football Club.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members and officials of the Kanoa Football Club flash the No. 1 sign after beating Shirley's Football Club, 3-1, in the finals of the 2019 Dove Spring Women's 11 vs 11 League last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Kanoa Football Club topped the 2019 Dove Spring Women's 11 vs 11 League after outclassing Shirley's Football Club, 3-1, in the winner-take-all finale last Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Irish Pagarao and Paulyn Joyce teamed up in handing Kanoa the season championship and keeping the squad's perfect record in the competition. Pagarao delivered a pair of goals, while Joyce contrib-

uted one.

The lefty's goal in the 10th minute opened things up for Kanoa. Pagarao was dribbling way out of the penalty area with four Shirley's defenders keep-



ing an eye on her. She then managed to push the ball forward and in between two defenders and sprinted to follow the leather. A couple more Shirley's defenders chased Pag-

arao, who then kicked the ball just a few yards away from the penalty area with Shirley's goalie Katherine Magat diving for the save, but failing.

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Better showing from CNMI Majors All-Star Team

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI Majors All-Star Team manager Gregorio Camacho is confident that their squad

will surpass the performance of the Commonwealth's representatives in the Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament last year.



"With the way I saw these players play last season and the way they are practicing now, I am pretty positive that we will play better in

South Korea this time," said Camacho after the Majors All-Stars' training session at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield yesterday.

The select squad is made up of 14 players, who stood out in the 2019 Saipan Little League Baseball that concluded early this month. The list includes Ezra Ada, Albert Adriano, Justin Camacho, Casey Chambers, Damien Herman Cruz, Joey Vincent Dela Cruz, Austin Diaz, Achilles Evangelista, Noah Iguel, Pattylyn Mendiola, Isaiah Mesa, Dylan Santos, Greg Tebit, and Melvin John Tudela. Anthony Tenorio and Calvani Deleon Guerrero are

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI Majors All-Star Team's Melvin John Tudela does pitching drills, while manager Gregorio Camacho looks on during their training session yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.



\$3M for Oleai Sports Complex repairs

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has allotted a total of \$3 million for the repair work at the Oleai Sports Complex.

FEMA External Affairs Office representative Todd Hoose told *Saipan Tribune* that the CNMI identified the sports complex as one of the government-owned facilities that suffered significant damage from Super Typhoon Yutu. He added that the allocation is part of FEMA's public assistance funds for projects that are owned by the CNMI government or government benefit facilities.

Hoose said that the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium will receive \$1.5 million in fresh funds to repair the damage it sustained from Yutu last year and Typhoon Soudelor in 2015. He added that the other \$1.5 million is allocated for

the chain-link fence, the softball and baseball fields, and the rest of the grounds of the facility.

The FEMA official said the agency agreed to fund the repair work at the Oleai Sports Complex, as the CNMI government believed the facility is a good investment. The sports complex has hosted several international and regional tournaments and also serves as venue for local competitions and training facility for CNMI athletes. Other members of the community also use the facility for their activities.

The \$3 million allocated for the Oleai Sports Complex is part of the almost \$170 million that FEMA has obligated to the CNMI government to help rebuild and repair facilities and other structures that were damaged by Super Typhoon Yutu.

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